

Ind. History - Civil War - 1968 Top
Vigo County Public Library

HOOSIERS IN THE CIVIL WAR

By

ARVILLE L. FUNK

1967

ADAMS PRESS
Chicago, Illinois

Ind. Hist. - cat.

714

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HOOSIERS IN THE CIVIL WAR

By

ARVILLE L. FUNK

◆

Vigo County Public Library

Copyright © 1967 by
Arville L. Funk



ADAMS PRESS
Chicago, Illinois

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I. Introduction.....	Page 3
Part II. Morgan's Raid.....	Page 7
Part III. The 38th Indiana Regiment and Griffin Letters.....	Page 30
Part IV. Indiana Military Installations.....	Page 56
Part V. Civil War Writings.....	Page 67
Part VI. Pictures and Maps of Civil War Era...	Page 113
Part VII. Appendix	
List of Andersonville Dead.....	Page 150
Organization of Indiana Regiments.....	Page 168
Indiana Regiment Casualties.....	Page 171
Indiana Civil War Reading List....	Page 176

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mr. Funk is a native of Corydon, Indiana, and for ten years was a teacher of Indiana History in the Perry Township, Marion County, schools. He is now a partner in the law firm of HAYS, O'BANNON & FUNK of Corydon. Mr. Funk is considered an authority on the Civil War and Indiana History and has contributed over 50 articles on those subjects to various magazines and quarterlies around the nation. He is the author of four previous historical publications, TALES OF OUR HOOSIER HERITAGE, INDIANA'S BIRTHPLACE, OUR HISTORIC CORYDON, and HARRISON COUNTY IN THE INDIANA SESQUICENTENNIAL.

INTRODUCTION

The Hoosier State was one of the first states to rush to the support of the Union on the outbreak of the Civil War in April, 1861. Four long years later, Indiana has furnished 208,367 sons to the Union Cause, including 24,416 who were killed or died during their service with the Northern forces. The Indiana regiments participated in over three hundred battles or engagements in the Civil War, including the first engagement at Philippi, Virginia, in June, 1861, and the final engagement of the war, the Battle of Palmetto Ranch, Texas, on May 13, 1865.

The first of the Indiana regiments to be recruited and mustered into service in April, 1861, were enlisted for three months' service. These six "ninety days regiments" were numbered Sixth through Eleventh, the five previous numbered regiments serving in the Mexican War. By the end of the war there had been 126 different Indiana Infantry regiments organized, and in addition, 13 regiments of cavalry and 26 batteries of artillery. Thirteen of the infantry regiments of Hoosiers were selected in Colonel William Fox's "Fightingest Regiments of the Union Army"; these honored regiments were the 6th, 9th, 14th, 19th, 20th, 22nd, 27th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 36th, 38th, and 40th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiments.

Indiana was governed during the period of the Civil War by Oliver P. Morton, perhaps the strongest and most powerful figure who has served as chief executive of the Hoosier State. Morton, who was a native of Salisbury, in Wayne County, was elected Lt. Governor in 1860 and became the state's 14th governor when Henry Smith Lane, the elected governor, resigned office to serve in the U.S. Senate. Morton held many titles, among them, "Deputy President of the West", "The Gibraltar of the West", and "The Autocratic Governor".

Many of the articles appearing in this volume were originally written by the author for different magazines, historical bulletins and quarterlies in Indiana and various states in the South. The author expresses his appreciation to the INDIANA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY, INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INDIANA CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMISSION, OUTDOOR INDIANA, and other historical quarterlies that gave permission to include his previous writings in this volume.

PERTINENT FACTS ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR

According to the U. S. Census, the population of the United States in 1860 numbered 31,443,321 persons. Of these, approximately 23,000,000 were in the 22 Northern states and 9,000,000 in the 11 Southern states. Of the latter total, 3,500,000 were slaves.

At one time or another, the Northern armies numbered 2,100,000 soldiers. The Southern armies were considerably smaller. The total dead on both sides was about 500,000.

Of the 364,000 on the Union side who lost their lives, a third were killed or died of wounds and two-thirds died of disease.

The chance of surviving a wound in Civil War days was 7 to 1; in the Korean War, 50 to 1.

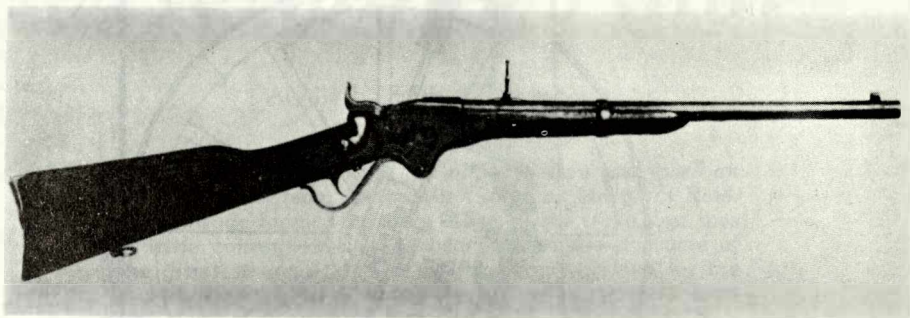
About 15 per cent of the wounded died in the Civil War; about 8 per cent in World War I; about 4 per cent in World War II; about 2 per cent in the Korean War.

There were 6,000,000 cases of disease in the Federal armies, which meant that, on an average, every man was sick at least twice.

The diseases most prevalent were dysentery, typhoid fever, malaria, pneumonia, arthritis, and the acute diseases of childhood, such as measles and malnutrition.

The principal weapon of the war and the one by which 80 per cent of all wounds were produced was a single-shot, muzzle-loading rifle in the hands of foot soldiers.

Most wounds were caused by an elongated bullet made of soft lead, about an inch long, pointed at one end and hollowed out at the base, and called a "minie" ball, having been invented by Capt. Minié of the French army.



Spencer seven-shot-repeating rifle used by Wilder's Brigade.

ARMS

A wide variety of small arms and ordnance was common to both sides. Basic infantry weapon in the beginning was a Springfield rifle musket, calibre .69, muzzle-loading, smooth bores. The Springfield rifle musket, calibre .58, also muzzle-loading, and of which there had been a small quantity in the United States Army at the beginning, became the standard piece of the Union infantry. It fired the famous Minié ball. Both sides also used large numbers of the British Enfield rifle-musket, calibre .577.

Field artillery consisted mainly of bronze Napoleon 12-pounder smooth bores, and the cast-iron Parrott 3" rifle. Both were muzzle loaders. Older 12-pounder and 6-pounder iron smooth bores were also used, as was a wide variety of other calibres. These were supplemented by limited numbers of breech-loading cannon, the most notable being English-made Armstrong, Blakely and Whitworth pieces.

In addition, large calibre siege guns as well as mortars were in common use.

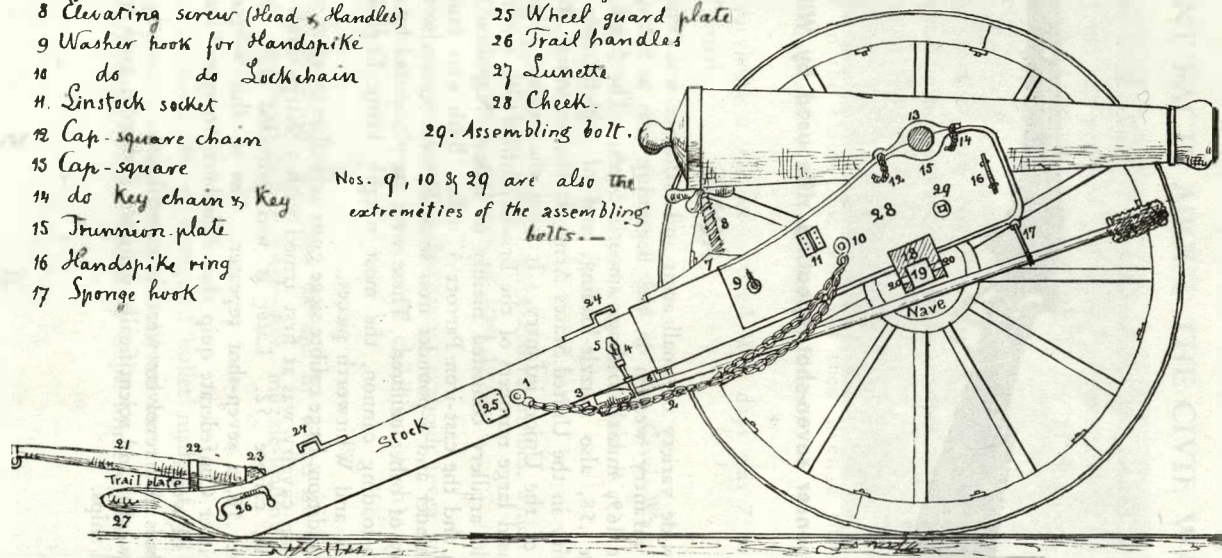
Union cavalry was at first armed with a Sharps single-shot breech-loading carbine, calibre .52. Later it was provided with the Spencer carbine, calibre .50, a seven-shot repeater. Use of this weapon in 1864 brought the bitter Confederate quip that Northern troopers "loaded on Sunday and fired all week."

Sabers and revolvers were in general use.

Powerful and scientifically designed Dahlgren guns were in use on board naval ships.

- 1 Lock chain bolt and eye plate
- 2 Lock chain
- 3 Sponge and rammer stop
- 4 Sponge chain hasp
- 5 Ear plate for sponge chain hasp
- 6 Ear plate to support worm, Key chain & Key
- 7 Box of the elevating screw (Brass)
- 8 Elevating screw (Head & Handles)
- 9 Washer hook for Handspike
- 10 do do Lock chain
- 11 Linstock socket
- 12 Cap-square chain
- 13 Cap-square
- 14 do Key chain & Key
- 15 Trunnion plate
- 16 Handspike ring
- 17 Sponge hook
- 18 Aale body (Wood)
- 19 Axle-tree (Iron)
- 20 Under strap
- 21 Hand spike
- 22 Large pointing ring
- 23 Small do
- 24 Trulonge hook
- 25 Wheel guard plate
- 26 Trail handles
- 27 Lunette
- 28 Cheek
29. Assembling bolt.

Nos. 9, 10 & 29 are also the
extremities of the assembling
bolts.



Morgan's Raid

Arville L. Funk, Contributor

*The same month of the fall of Vicksburg witnessed an invasion of Indiana, commonly known as Morgan's Raid. The episode loomed up very large in the state, but was of little consequence in its bearings on the outcome of the great struggle. It was so far overshadowed by the momentous events of that July that it has almost been lost sight of in general histories of the Civil War.**



Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan, C.S.A.

AS THE CENTENNIAL of the great War Between the States draws near, Hoosiers of southern Indiana recall again the romance of the dashing Confederate

cavalryman, John Hunt Morgan, and his celebrated raid through Indiana in July, 1863. The raid itself has become a legend and at times it seems the trails of Morgan have not changed since that warm, sultry day he crossed the Ohio River from Brandenburg, Kentucky.

The main purpose of Morgan's Raid was to divert the attention of Union forces that were threatening Confederate forces in Tennessee. Morgan's orders from General Bragg called only for an invasion of Kentucky. It has never been fully explained why the daring cavalry leader thought a raid across the Ohio into Indiana would be more effective. Doubtless he was encouraged by knowledge that there were many Southern sympathizers in Indiana from whom aid was expected.

Morgan's division was composed of some 2,500 cavalrymen, divided into two brigades of four regiments each, plus two batteries of artillery. Brigade commanders were Brig. Gen. Basil W. Duke (Morgan's brother-in-law) and Colonel Adam R. Johnson, well-known partisan leaders and able military of-

*Charles Roll, *Indiana, 150 Years of American Development*, II, pp. 210-211 (1931).

the small Kentucky river town of Brandenburg. Two steamers were seized, the *Alice Dean* and the *T. J. McCombs*, to transport the troops across to a point east of Mauckport.

**MORGAN'S RAID
IN INDIANA
July 8-13, 1863**

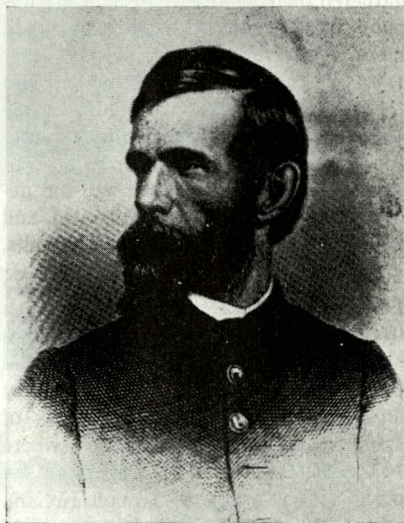
8

the Harrison County Legion and a riverboat, the *Lady Pike*. When Morgan's artillery returned fire the *Lady Pike* retreated and the six-pounder on the opposite shore was silenced. The crossing was completed without further incident and the ships were scuttled and fired. Until a few years ago the hulk of the *Alice Dean* could be seen at low water resting on a sand bar near the Indiana shore. The gun which had fired on them was captured along with several prisoners.

Governor Oliver P. Morton, on receiving information of the invasion of Indiana soil, issued a proclamation ordering all able-bodied male citizens in the counties south of the National Road to form into companies and arm themselves with such arms as they could procure.

On the morning of July 9 the advance guard, led by Morgan's brother, Colonel Richard Morgan, moved north on the Mauckport Road. One mile south of Corydon, county seat of Harrison County, the scouts encountered the Harrison County Home Guard (officially the Sixth Regiment of the Indiana Legion).

Numbering about 450, the home guards, under Colonel Jordan, were drawn up in a battle line behind a hastily thrown up barricade of logs. In a short but spirited battle lasting less than an hour, Morgan met his first and only organized resistance in the Hoosier State. By outflanking both wings at the same time, Morgan's men completely routed the militia. Four of the guards were killed, several wounded, 355 captured and the rest escaped. The victory was not without cost to the raiders, eight were killed and thirty-three wounded. This, the only battle on Indiana soil in the Civil War, is officially recognized as such in the *Official Records of the Civil War*.



Indiana's General Lew Wallace

The prisoners were paroled by Morgan on entering the town of Corydon, and the raiders began collecting the spoils of victory. Most of the afternoon was spent in plundering the stores and collecting ransom money. The county treasurer was relieved of \$690, two leading stores of \$600 each and contributions of \$700 to \$1,000 were demanded from the three mills to save them from being burned. While resting at Corydon, Morgan first learned of the fall of Vicksburg and Gettysburg from a newspaper just arrived from the north.

Late in the day the troops left Corydon and marched northward. The main column took New Salisbury while several companies made sorties over the countryside to other villages, collecting fresh horses and plunder. During the night bivouac was made along the road south of Palmyra for a few hours.

On the morning of July 10 the scattered troops reunited at Salem. Militia

gathered there was easily overcome without exchange of fire. Salem suffered more from the raiders than any other town in Indiana. The men plundered in the most reckless manner, taking everything they could get their hands on, useful or not. The railway track for considerable distance was torn up, the depot and several bridges destroyed and large ransoms demanded from the mills.

By this time federal troops were in Palmyra and General Hobson's Union troops numbering 6,000 were not far behind. Governor Morton had called in General Lew Wallace to lead a hastily organized and poorly armed militia of 3,500 south from Indianapolis (where 20,000 had mobilized) with orders "to push General Morgan through Indiana as rapidly as possible," but to avoid conflict because of the scarcity of arms.

From Salem, Morgan turned to the east. At the town of Vienna the raiders captured the railroad telegrapher. One of Morgan's men did an effective job of confusing messages being exchanged between Madison, Indianapolis and Louisville, before burning down the station. They moved on to Lexington, a larger town, then the county seat of Scott County, and camped that night in the town square.

In the morning, July 11, Morgan moved his troops northward toward Vernon and North Vernon, important railway centers. Some 2,500 opposition forces had gathered at Vernon and with guns planted on high points were determined to hold the town. When Morgan sighted the organized defense he sent forward a flag of truce demanding immediate surrender. Colonel Williams, in command of Vernon, sent back a spirited reply. Several messages were exchanged and the women and children evacuated. Meanwhile, Morgan quietly deployed his men south and east behind

cover of the hills, and instead of attacking, as Williams expected, moved south toward Dupont without firing a shot.

At Dupont they got busy and repeated the work done at Vienna, seizing the telegraph station and sending out misleading messages and misinformation. The night was spent here but early in the morning, July 12, Morgan broke camp and headed almost due east across country to the Michigan Road. Just four hours later Hobson's troops marched into Dupont, having come straight from Paris, while Morgan's troops were making the fruitless 24-mile trip to Vernon.

Striking the Michigan Road at about Bryantsburg, Morgan led his men north to Versailles, where several hours were spent in plundering. At Osgood, a point on the vital Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, two railway bridges were destroyed and miles of track torn up. This was the last major action in Indiana. From here the raiders fled northeast through Dearborn County, rather difficult terrain, crossing into Ohio near Harrison about noon of July 13. The fact that the raiders were mounted while their pursuers were infantry had given them a great advantage.

Today, if one should visit the site of the only major skirmish with Morgan in Indiana, you would find only two reminders of the battle. One is the monument on the site of the battle just south of Corydon on State Road 135. The other is a little-visited grave just inside and east of the main gate of Cedar Hill Cemetery in Corydon. On the headstone is this inscription:

Greene Bottomer

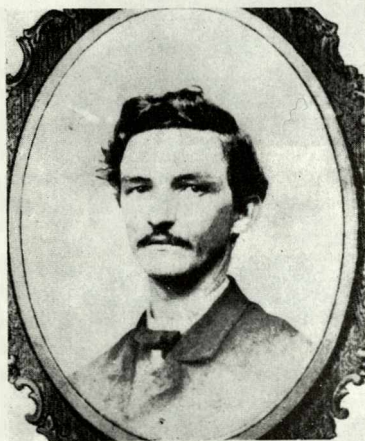
*A member of Gen. John H. Morgan's
Command, Killed July 9, 1863*

Stone erected by Col. Bennett Young

Burning of Salem Depot



MORGAN'S MARAUDERS



Capt. Thomas Hines, Chief Scout
and spy for Morgan

THE CORYDON DEMOCRAT.

SIMMONS & WHEAT, Editors.

CORYDON, IND., JULY 14, 1861.

**The Morgan Raid Into
Indiana.**

The Battle at Corydon.

450 Home Guards and Citizens
vs:

4,500 Rebel Cavalry and 7 Pieces
of Artillery.

**The Home Guards & Cit-
izens hold the Rebels
in Check 45 Min-
utes.**

Home Guard and Citizens Over-
powered by Numbers and
Compelled to Surrender.

CORYDON CAPTURED

Union Losses four Killed and two
Wounded.

every man, woman and child
abandoning the place, and
even of the business of the
city. One has said the
it was perhaps the only
instance of a city being
abandoned by its people.

In this gallant little
army killed and three or
four were taken. The
Union men, however,
and James Forrest of his
company was pretty badly
wounded. Among the
names of our wounded is
one unable to obtain.

It was the effort to
capture the city and to
ordered the men to fall
Corydon and by them-
selves to obstruct the pas-
sage as much as possible
with artillery could be
brought to bear. In the
place in which place de-
parted and for help, he
will be able to explain.

Not deterred however
the overpowering forces
people went to work and
a large of Home Guards
number about 300 effective.

**TABLE OF ORGANIZATION
MORGAN'S CAVALRY DIVISION
(C. S. A.)**

Commanding Officer
Brig. General John Hunt Morgan
FIRST BRIGADE—

Brig. Gen. Basil Duke, Comdg.
Second Kentucky Cavalry Reg.—
Major Thomas Webber, Comdr.
Fifth Kentucky Cavalry Reg.—
Col. D. H. Smith, Comdr.
Sixth Kentucky Cavalry Reg.—
Col. J. Warren Grigsby, Comdr.
Ninth Tennessee Cavalry Reg.—
Col. William Ward, Comdr.

SECOND BRIGADE—
Col. Adam R. Johnson, Comdg.
Seventh Kentucky Cavalry Reg.—
Lt. Col. John Huffman, Comdr.
Eighth Kentucky Cavalry Reg.—
Col. Roy S. Cluke, Comdr.
Tenth Kentucky Cavalry Reg.—
Major Walsh Owen, Comdr.
Eleventh Kentucky Cavalry Reg.—
Lt. Col. Joseph Tucker, Comdr.
Advance Guard—Fourteenth Cav-
alry Reg.—
Col. R. C. Morgan, Comdr.

Artillery—
Byrnes Battery—(2) 3 inch Par-
rots, Captain Edward Byrnes,
Comdr.
Lawrence's Battery—(2) 12 lb.
Howitzers

(The 9th Kentucky Cavalry Reg-
iment, commanded by Col. William
Breckenridge, was on the Ken-
tucky part of the raid, but did not
cross the river into Indiana.)



GEN. BASIL DUKE, SECOND IN
COMMAND, MORGAN'S DIV.

**CORYDON WEEKLY DESCRIB-
ING BATTLE OF CORYDON**

Documents

The Battle of Corydon

*Contributed by Arville L. Funk**

Although Confederates and their sympathizers made various raids across the Ohio River into southern Indiana during the Civil War, the one led by General John Hunt Morgan exceeded them all in size. Moreover, it caused more excitement, resulted in more property damage, and created more legends than did any of the other raids. The objectives and results of Morgan's raid continue to be interpreted with much diversity of opinion; for instance, see the article by Professor William E. Wilson in this issue of the *Indiana Magazine of History*.

General Morgan's cavalry division included approximately 2,400 troops when it arrived at the little Ohio River town of Brandenburg, Kentucky, on the morning of July 7, 1863. During the previous day advance scouts had captured two steamers, the "J. T. McCombs" and the "Alice Dean," for use in crossing the river. Meanwhile, the Indiana Legion (Home Guards) and local volunteers called for reinforcements and girded for conflict.

On July 8 Morgan easily crossed the Ohio despite the opposition of the Indiana Legion and local volunteers. Proceeding northward against sporadic opposition from the Hoosiers, Morgan's cavalry spent the night several miles south of Corydon and about ten miles from the Ohio.

Next morning, July 9, the Indiana Legion and the local volunteers fought the invaders at the Battle of Corydon, a mile or so south of the former state capital. Morgan's cavalry were soon victorious and immediately marched into Corydon and looted the town, then headed toward Palmyra and Salem yet that afternoon. Their route thereafter until Morgan's capture in Ohio is indicated in the article by Professor Wilson.

The account of the Battle of Corydon which follows was written by Simeon K. Wolfe, editor of the *Corydon Weekly Democrat*, and a participant in the battle. Though his estimate of 4,500 men with Morgan is about twice the actual number, Editor Wolfe frankly admitted quick defeat for the defenders.

Indiana Magazine of History

The original punctuation and spelling have been preserved in reproducing the editor's account from the *Weekly Democrat* of July 14, 1863. Since the newspaper was a weekly, additional items were interspersed in succeeding columns after the main account of the battle as further news was received.¹

The Morgan Raid Into Indiana.

The Battle at Corydon.

450 Home Guards and Citizens.

vs:

4,500 Rebel Cavalry and 7 Pieces of Artillery.

*The Home Guards & Citizens hold
the Rebels in Check 25 Minutes.*

Home Guards and Citizens Overpowered by
Numbers and Compelled to Surrender.

CORYDON CAPTURED

Union Losses four Killed and two Wounded.

REBEL LOSS 10 KILLED AND 40 WOUNDED.

GREAT ROBBERY OF THE PEOPLE IN TOWN AND COUNTRY.

Our town and community have been the scene of intense excitement during the whole of the past week in consequence of the invasion of the State at this point by the notorious guerrillas under the equally notorious John Morgan. A vast amount of damage by horse-stealing and other plundering has been done which it is impossible for us to detail at the present time with any great degree of accuracy, but we think it a safe estimate to put the loss to our citizens at the least at \$100,000.

We will endeavor to give a reliable account of the raid from the time the rebels crossed at Brandenburg up to the

¹ For a general account of Morgan's Raid see Cecil Fletcher Holland, *Morgan and His Raiders* (New York, 1943); Louis B. Ewbank, "Morgan's Raid in Indiana," Indiana Historical Society Publication, Vol.

The Battle of Corydon

time when they left Harrison county. But for the lack of due military organization and the consequent official information on many points, our details may not be in every particular correct, but the main features we *know* are correct, for we were present in the midst of some of the exciting scenes and have a very lively recollection of them; of the other matters we think we have reliable accounts.

THE FIGHT AT BRANDENBURG CROSSING.

On Tuesday evening (July the 7th) the steamboat T. J. McCombs landed at Brandenburg, and was immediately captured by Morgan's advance guard then in possession of the town. The McCombs was taken by the rebels to the middle of the river and there she hoisted the sign of distress. Soon after the Alice Dean coming up was hailed to give relief. For that purpose she approached the McCombs and was thus also captured by the rebels. The news of the capture of these boats was communicated by some Union men of Brandenburg to Lieut Col: Wm. J. Irvin, of the Indiana Legion, then at Mauckport. A short time after receiving this intelligence the Lady Pike coming up was hailed by Col. Irvin at Mauckport, and turned back to Leavenworth for a six-pound gun und [*sic*] assistance; a dispatch was also sent to Col. Jordan at Corydon for reinforcements to intercept the rebels crossing. At midnight the Lady Pike returned with the Leavenworth gun and a small company to man it under command of Capt Lyons and Col. Woodbury. Before daylight, on Wednesday morning the gun was in position on the bank opposite Brandenburg, and as soon as daylight and the disappearance of the fog would render it practicable the gun was directed by Col. Irvin to be fired upon the boilers of the vessels with a view of sinking or disabling them and thus prevent the crossing of the raiders. This command, we are informed by Colonel Irvin, was countermanded by Provost Marshall [*sic*] John Timberlake who claimed precedence in command on the occasion, and an order was given by the latter officer, to shell the rebel cavalry on the bank. Another and different version, however, of this matter, we understand is given by Provost Timberlake; but we have not been able to see him and obtain it. This shelling was done for a short time with some success, causing the rascals to skedaddle to the rear of the town in fine style but before getting out of the way some thirty of them were killed and wounded. Soon, however, after our gun opened fire, two rebel batteries, one at the Court House at Brandenburg and the other towards the lower part of

town, began to play with terrific force upon our gun with shells, making it too hot for our boys to hold their position. They abandoned the gun, but afterwards retook it and carried it farther to the rear. The rebel infantry from the Kentucky shore also kept up a brisk fire across at our forces; and our infantry, consisting of Cpts. Farquar's Huffman's and Hays' companies of the Legion, in all not exceeding 100 men, returned the fire briskly.

But the superior artillery force of the enemy soon compelled our small force to abandon the gun again, and then under the cover of his batteries, the enemy began to cross their thieving forces to the Indiana side. Our boys held the ground as long as it was prudent or safe in the face of the forces coming against them, and then retired.

In this gallant little fight we lost two men killed and three or four wounded.—The killed were, Georgia Nance of Laconia and James Currant of Heth township. Capt Farquar was pretty badly injured by his horse running him against a tree. The names of our wounded in this fight we have been unable to obtain.

SKIRMISHING ON THE ROAD.

Failing in the effort to prevent the rebels crossing Col. Irvin and provost Timberlake ordered the men to fall back on the road to Corydon and by skirmishing and falling trees to obstruct the passage of the enemy as much as possible until reinforcements with artillery could be had from New Albany, to which place dispatches were repeatedly sent for help; but for some reason, which we hope the authorities of that post will be able to explain, *we never got a man or a gun!*

Not deterred however by this neglect, or the overpowering forces in our front, the people went to work and by great exertions a force of Home Guards and citizens, number about 300 effective men, were got together on Wednesday evening and marched out on the Mauckport road to skirmish with the enemy and impede his progress as much as possible. The main body of these under command of Col. Jordan, went as far as Glenn's house four miles south of Corydon. Here the infantry remained until about 10 o'clock at night and returned to the neighborhood of Corydon, while the cavalry and mounted citizens to the number of over one hundred men were sent on the roads running south of Corydon as scouts to watch the operations of the enemy. Several small engagements between the skirmishers occurred on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning; in one of these one rebel was

The Battle of Corydon

killed near Glenn's house, and two prisoners were captured. The rebels, shortly afterwards at the same place shot John Glenn, a son of Peter, through both thighs, and about the same time—shot and killed Peter Glenn, an old and well known citizen, and burnt his dwelling and barn. In their progress to Corydon they also burn Peter Lopp's Mills on Buck creek, which is all the burning of property we have heard of them doing in the county. Their principal depredations being in horse stealing and robbing houses and citizens of everything valuable.

Many "hair-breadth escapes" and gallant charges are reported by these skirmishers, but we have not the space for detailing them at this time.

THE BATTLE AT CORYDON.

About 11 ½ o'clock on Thursday morning our scouts brought the report that the enemy was approaching in strong force up the Mauckport road toward Corydon. Our forces, consisting of about 450 Home Guards and citizens under command of Col. Lewis Jordan of the Legion, assisted by Provost Timberlake (late Col. of the 81st Indiana regiment) and Maj. Jacob Pfrimmer (who up to this time had been engaged with the cavalry in scouting) formed a line of battle on the hill one mile south of town, the extreme right wing resting at the Amsterdam road and the left near the Laconia road, making the Mauckport road, along which the main body of the enemy would approach, about one third of the distance of the entire length of the line from the right wing. The ground on the left of the Mauckport road is a heavy woods and though not hilly is somewhat uneven, which with the logs and underbrush made it difficult for a cavalry charge. This portion of the line was well selected for the purpose of saving our men from the rebel fire, but bad for the purpose of enabling our men to operate effectively against them, the line being at least fifty yards too far north, being that distance from an elevation in the ground which prevented either party from seeing the other before the enemy arrived to that distance from our line. Temporary breastworks composed of logs and fence rails were hastily thrown up by our forces which did good service in impeding the charge of the enemy.

About an hour later, the enemy made his appearance in small force, probably one company, about three quarters of a mile a little to the left and in front of our line where they were handsomely whipped by the infantry under the command of Captain G. W. Lahue which had been placed there for

picket duty. In that fight we lost one man killed, named Steepleton, and had none wounded. The rebels had several killed and six or seven wounded. Before this skirmish was fairly over, the enemy made their appearance in front of our main line along the Mauckport road in strong force. We (the editor) were with a squad of the Henry Rifles under command of Maj. McGrain, at the extreme right of the line on the Amsterdam road and had a full view of the approaching enemy. They completely filled the road for nearly one mile. As soon as they approached in range the Henry Rifles opened fire and did good work, the enemy being in full view. Soon the fire became general along the entire right wing, which checked the advancing column of the enemy, and compelled them to undertake to flank both our wings at the same time, a performance which the great disparity of forces enabled them easily to do.

Shortly after the flank movement was began [*sic*] and before it was executed, the enemy opened upon our forces with three pieces of artillery, making the shells sing the ugly kind of music over our heads. This shelling operation, together with the known fact that our line would be strongly flanked on both wings at the same time made it necessary for the safety of our men, for them to fall back. This was done, not with the best of order it is true, for our forces were mostly undrilled, but with excellent speed. From this time the fight was converted into a series of skirmishes in which each man seemed to fight upon his own hook mostly after the manner of bushwhackers.

In the meantime the enemy had completely flanked the town, having, before a gun was fired, taken possession of the plank road one mile east of town, where our men in their retreat were intercepted. Upon the right wing a large flanking force was sent against our lines and the fighting was very sharp for the space of 20 minutes in that quarter; twelve Henry Rifles and a squad of 30 or 40, some 100 yards to their left, armed with the ordinary rifle musket holding a heavy body of flankers in check for ten or fifteen minutes and compelling them to dismount.

Being completely overpowered by numbers our forces gradually fell back to Corydon and the cavalry and mounted infantry generally made their escape. After the field was taken by the enemy they moved forward, and planted a battery on the hill south of the town, and threw two shells into the town, both of them striking near the center of main

The Battle of Corydon

street, one exploded but did no damage. Seeing the contest was hopeless and that a continuance of the fight would only result in unnecessary loss of life and the destruction of the town, Col. Jordan wisely hoisted the white flag and surrendered.

The enemy immediately marched in and took military possession of the town; and then the work of pillage soon began. Everything the rebels wanted in the eating and wearing line and horses and buggies they took. The two stores of Douglass, Denbo & Co., and S. J. Wright and the two Steam Mills were the heaviest losers. The two stores were robbed of about \$300 each and a contribution of \$700 each in cash was levied upon the two mills in town and a like sum upon Mauck's mill near town. This large sum Messrs. Leffler & Applegate, Wright & Brown and John J. Mauck were compelled to pay to save their Mills from the flames. Many other citizens lost in horses and other property from 100 to \$600, Mr. Hisey was robbed of \$690 in cash. But we have not space enough to enumerate the pecuniary losses—few or none escaped entirely.

LOSSES.

The Union losses, beside property, are as follows:

KILLED:

Wm. Heth; Nathan McKinzie and Harry Steepleton —3.

WOUNDED:

Jacob Ferree and Caleb Thomas —2.

Our loss in prisoners was about 300 all of whom were paroled.

The rebels admitted their loss to be 8 killed and 33 wounded.

FORCES ENGAGED.

The number of forces engaged was 4500 commanded by Gen. Morgan with 7 pieces of artillery. The Union forces, consisting of raw militia [*sic*] and citizens, did not exceed 450. With these raw troops — *one* yank to *ten* rebs — Morgan's progress was impeded about five hours, which we hope will result in his capture.

Under all the circumstances we think our boys did exceedingly well. It was not expected at the start that so small a force could whip Morgan, but it was expected we could punish him some and impede his progress so that somebody

else more nearly equal his strength could catch him and do him justice. That this will soon be done we have every reason to hope.

HIS LEAVING THE COUNTY.

About 5 o'clock, P. M., after robbing the town to his heart's contents, the King of American Freebooters left, moving north on the Salem road, stealing, as a matter of course, as he went. In Blue River township the rebels shot two young men named McKinstry and at Bradford they shot a German whose name we did not learn.

Morgan's Whereabouts.

It isn't safe to say one hour where Morgan will be the next. Our latest intelligence placed him in the neighborhood of Vernon in Jennings Co., on Saturday where he had a fight with Lew. Wallace. A small squad of the raiders were whipped and scattered at Perkin in Clark county, a portion of their scattered men were seen in the north part of this county on Sunday.

After leaving this county Morgan went to Salem and captured the town without any resistance. After burning the depot and committing all the depredation he wanted, he left, going east.

Shot and Mortally Wounded.

At Salem, Wm. Vance, a son of the late Arthur Vance of this place, was shot by the rebels and mortally wounded, but under what circumstances we have not been able to learn.

.

6 Rebs and 19 Horses Captured.

Six of Morgan's men and nineteen horses were captured by the citizens near Fairdale, on Monday morning, and brought to this place. They are a portion of those that crossed at Twelve Mile Island. They were cut off from their main force in a skirmish at Pekin on Saturday evening last. The 13 who had the other horses have not at this time (Monday evening) been captured, but will be, unless they dodge equal to Morgan himself. The horses are mostly very fine ones.—The Rebs came to a house unarmed, gave themselves up and told where the horses were hitched in the woods.

Hurrah for Old Harrison!

Morgan, at last accounts, was at Aurora, Dearborn county, having left Vernon. The Home Guards and citizens,

The Battle of Corydon

in no other county but Old Harrison. stood and gave him a fight. We faught [*sic*] him twice.

Hurrah, for Old Harrison; her sons are as true as steel doubly refined.

.

In the hurry and confusion with which we have been surrounded for the past few days we have not, in our account of the rebel invasion and the battle, been able to give a statement of the different companies of the Legion engaged. Nor are we able to state fully the assistance we received from other counties. We saw some gallant boys from Georgetown and Edwardsville. The "two hundred from New Albany," mentioned by the Louisville Democrat, we have not heard of.

We have every reason to believe and hope that Morgan cannot escape from the State. Ample preparations are on foot to capture him.

Another contemporary document which describes the Battle of Corydon is the following letter written by Attia Porter, a young Corydon girl, to her cousin Private John C. Andrews, Forty-third Indiana Infantry Regiment, Company C, who at the time was with the Union army in Helena, Arkansas. This letter is the property of the family of James P. Andrews of Terre Haute, and is here reproduced with the permission of the Andrews family.

Corydon Ind. July 30/63

Dear Cousin

I was just studying the other day whose time it was to write mine or yours and could not come to any satisfactory conclusion, when your letter arrived and as a matter of course I was the debtor and I have since found out I owe you two letters instead of one. I received yours with the miniature three weeks ago, but never could manage to sit down and write. We have had rather exciting times in Indiana for the last few weeks, and have had a few of the miseries of the south pictured to us though in a small degree. On the doubly memorable ninth of July a visit was paid to the citizens of Corydon and vicinity by Morgan and his herd of horse thieves. We heard Tuesday night that they had crossed the river and had disgraced the soil of Indiana with their most unhallowed

feet. Our home guards skirmished with the rebs from the river to [Corydon] and on one of the hills overlooking the town had a grand *battle*. The battle raged violently for *thirty* minutes, just think of it! and on account of the large number of the rebs we were forced to retire which our men did in good earnest every one seemed determined to get out of town first but which succeeded remains undecided to this day. After the general skedaddle, Col Jordan wisely put up the white flag—and we were prisoners to a horde of thieves and murderers. I don't want you to think I am making fun of our brave home guards for I am not in the least. But now, that all the danger is over, it is real funny to think how our men did run. Gen. Carrington awarded great praise to us and we all think that is something. What could 350 undrilled home guards and citizens do against 4,000 well drilled and disciplined soldiers (?) We did not even know Hobson was following him. We sent to New Albany time and again for help and not one man or gun did they send us. Though we have found out since that it was the fault of Gen. Boyle and not the people of New Albany. It made Morgan so mad to think a few home guards dared to fight his men. I am glad they done it just to spite him. However they captured most of the guards and parolled them and killed three of our men. Father was out fighting with his Henry rifle but they did not get him or his gun. One of Morgans spies was in town three or four weeks visiting his relatives and some of his men helped our men to build the entrenchments. I guess none of the rebels down south are that accommodating are they? One of our brave boys run three miles from the rebels, and really run himself to death. He stopped at a house and fainted and never came to. Dident he deserve a promotion? I think that was the awfulest day I ever passed in my life. The rebels reported around that they shot father because he would not surrender, but it was all a story. The rebs were pretty hard on the copperheads but they did not take a thing from us. The[y] kidnapped our little negro and kept him three weeks but he got away from them and is now at home safe. We killed six or eight of theirs and wounded twenty five or thirty. I expect you are tired of hearing about Morgan so I will stop. I forgot my letter till so late this morning, and I have not got time to write much more or I will be too late for the stage so Goodby.

Attia

The author (left) dedicating a marker at Vienna, Indiana



VIENNA, IND.

REPORT OF COLONEL LEWIS JORDAN

Commanding 6th Regiment Indiana Legion.

Headquarters 6th Reg't. 2nd Brig. Ind. Leg.,
Corydon, Ind., Aug. 11, 1863.

To L. Noble, Adjutant General of the State of Indiana:

The undersigned, Colonel of said regiment, would make the following report of the doings of said regiment during the late Morgan Raid through Indiana:

Notice was given me by Lieutenant Colonel Irvin on Tuesday evening late, the 7th July last, that at about 5 o'clock P. M. of that day, two steamboats — McCombs and Alice Dean — had been pressed by a rebel force at Brandenburg, Ky. I took immediate steps to have my regiment under arms, and ordered Major Pfrimmer to report to Lieutenant Colonel Irvin at Mauckport. I also sent Captain Farquar, of the Cavalry, with a squad of his men, that he might dispatch me all necessary information of the operations of the rebels. During the night a six pounder field piece, under the command of Major Woodbury, Captain Lamb, and a squad of men from Leavenworth arrived opposite Brandenburg, Ky., which opened fire on the rebels about 8 o'clock on the morning of the 8th of July, the fog having just disappeared from the river. The rebels soon succeeded in placing four field pieces in position, and sent shot and shell at our forces, driving them from their gun, killing two of our men, one of them a Lieutenant. Two companies of this regiment, the Mauckport Rifles and Heth Rifles, being near at hand, some of the men aided in firing the gun. The rebels commenced crossing in a boat, which was compelled to land a half mile or more above, as Colonel Timberlake, with a party of twelve or fifteen men, rallied to the gun, and succeeded in firing several times while the boat was crossing, but without causing any injury to the boat; they being compelled to abandon the gun. The enemy crossed over in such force, with the aid of their field pieces on the opposite side of the river, that our forces were compelled to fall back. Skirmishing was kept up on the different roads, under the direction of Major Pfrimmer (Colonel Irvin having come back to Corydon), a report of whose operations is herewith returned, until he fell back to the forces under my immediate command, six miles out on

the Mauckport road (the two companies - Heth Rifles and Mauckport Rifles - having been cut off from our forces), where about two hundred men were under me, on the evening of the 8th July. I then gradually fell back on the morning of the 9th of July, to within a mile of Corydon, where I caused temporary breastworks and obstructions to be hastily made, extending my command one half mile east and west, commanding all the roads coming from the river, at which time I had under my command, of the Legion and citizens, a force of 400 to 450.

I kept out a sufficient picket force in front, who skirmished with the enemy continually on the morning of the 9th, and gradually fell back before the main force of the enemy, to my line of defences, on my main force; the rebels appearing in force all along my line about 1 o'clock P. M., on the 9th of July, first firing on my left, which was held by Captain George W. Lahue, of the Spencer Guards, who repulsed the enemy three times, losing one man, and wounding a large number of rebels; after which the rebels, being largely reinforced, Captain Lahue gradually fell back in good order; when the enemy opened along my whole line. Our forces replied to their fire, holding our position thirty minutes, when the enemy opened with three pieces of artillery, with shell and shot, and they appearing in such overwhelming numbers, seeing my forces could no longer successfully contend against such odds, I gave the order to fall back through Corydon, which was done in good order, until it was ascertained that the rebel forces had almost surrounded the town, which caused considerable confusion. The enemy commenced shelling the town; I was compelled to surrender it with such of my forces as had not escaped. Three hundred and forty-five men were paroled by General Morgan, among them about one hundred and forty members of the Legion, the others being citizens, many of whom had not been in arms, they making prisoners of all. Morgan remained in town until night, his forces robbing the stores, and levying \$2100 on the mills - one hour being given to raise the money, or he would burn the mills. The money was paid.

Many of the prisoners he took were robbed of their hats, boots, and clothing; also of such amounts of money as they had on their persons. The rebels acknowledged a loss of thirty-seven. Too much praise cannot be given to the citizens generally for their aid in the fight. I am under obligations to Major Stout, of New Albany, Capt. George L. Key, Capt. I. D. Irwin, and Col. John Timberlake, who volunteered to assist, and were efficient aids in the conflict. Major Pfrimmer and Adj. Heth acted with promptness, and were efficient in carrying out my orders. Lieut. Col. Irwin reported to me on the morning of the 9th, and left without leave before the fight com-

REPORT OF COLONEL LEWIS JORDAN

menced, and has made no satisfactory report of his doings to me since. Some action should be had in his case. In the engagement opposite Brandenburg and near Corydon, four of our men were killed, and two wounded, viz: Lieut. Current, of the Mauckport Rifles, and Harry Stapleton, of the Legion, were killed; also, Nathan McKinzie and George Nance, citizens. John Glenn, of the Ellsworth Rifles, was severely wounded, and Jacob Ferrace, a citizen, (one of the County Commissioners) was severely wounded, and has since died. Isaac Lang, belonging to the Scott Rifles, under Captain A. B. Carns, died from over-heat in the battle. Morgan's forces killed Peter Glenn, and burned his houses and barns, he having been induced to come where Morgan's forces were, near his residence, by a flag of truce, and having no arms. William Heth, a citizen, was shot down near the town. Others were shot at, and two boys were crippled, in the north part of our county. On Wednesday morning, the 8th day of July, after having received reliable official information of the fact that the enemy in force had crossed the river, I dispatched a messenger to Maj. Thos. W. Fry, Commander of the Post at New Albany, Indiana, informing him of the artillery firing there, the casualties, and the first crossing of the rebel forces, and requesting that assistance and artillery be sent us. The dispatch reached him on the 8th, at 12 o'clock, twenty-five hours before the rebels appeared in force before my lines here. I dispatched three or four times afterward, the same day, requesting assistance and artillery, also, on the following morning. Assistance and artillery was promised, but for some cause it was never sent from New Albany. An infantry force of drilled men of 2,000, and two pieces of artillery - which I think could have been sent - would have defeated the rebels and prevented the capture of the town. Of this I have no doubt. What guns were in the armory, not drawn by organized companies, were given to the citizens. We have 500 guns in good order, with proper accoutrements, in the companies, and left in our armory. The others drawn by this county have been captured and destroyed by the rebels; however, a few may be reported hereafter. If so, I will make a proper report thereof. Some 500 horses were captured from citizens of this county, and but few have been recovered. Eleven wounded rebels were left in our charge, two of whom died. The remainder were reported to Major Fry at New Albany, two of whom were Lieutenants. Sixteen of a party who crossed at Twelve Mile Island, above Louisville, intending to join Morgan's forces, were captured by men belonging to my command, one of whom was a Captain, and reported to Major Fry at New Albany. Nineteen very good horses were captured by the Legion, and being claimed by the Deputy Provost Marshal and others, under United States authority, were delivered into their custody.

An Ohio Farmer's Account of Morgan's Raid

Edited by ARVILLE L. FUNK*

ALTHOUGH OHIO contributed soldiers to all of the major battles of the Civil War, the state itself was to know war only through an exciting thirteen-day invasion of its borders by "The Thunderbolt of the Confederacy," General John Hunt Morgan, and his Confederate cavalry division.

The purpose of the raid through Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio in July 1863 was to divert federal troops in these areas who were moving to join General Ambrose E. Burnside at Cincinnati for an invasion of east Tennessee.

Morgan's division was composed of 2,400 mounted men, divided into ten regiments and two brigades. The excited home guards of Indiana and Ohio variously estimated the raiders' strength at from 5,000 to 10,000 men. After crossing the Ohio River at Brandenburg, Kentucky, Morgan had a brief skirmish at Corydon, Indiana, the next day, then spent five days raiding southeastern Indiana before crossing into Ohio at Harrison on July 13. From Harrison, the raiders by-passed Cincinnati, then sped through Piketon, Jackson, and Pomeroy, until they were cornered and defeated at Buffington Ford, where they were attempting to recross the Ohio River.

Morgan's ill-fated raid finally ended near Lisbon, in Columbiana County, on July 26, when he surrendered with only 300 of his command left.

David Hulse, the writer of the following letter, was a farmer living near the little village of Sharonville, just north of Cincinnati. Although Hulse did not actually see the events

of the raid, his account of the experiences of some of the people in the area around Cincinnati gives an interesting sidelight on the raid.¹

All original spelling has been preserved in reproducing Hulse's letter (which was addressed to his brother in Illinois and is now in the possession of Mrs. Vivien M. Hancock of Southport, Indiana). A few paragraphs at the end of the letter relating to farm and family matters have been omitted.

Pisgah, Ohio
July 19th 1863.

Brother, and Family.

As you, know doubt, have heard of the great Morgan raid, through your old neighbourhood in Ohio, you would be interested to learn some of the peticulars which the papers does not publish. Alltho, I did not see a single Soldier[,] I will proceed to give you as correct account as I can from hearsay.

By the Papers of last Monday we heard that Morgans men were nigh Hamilton O. We scarcely could realize this news. On the next morning (Tuesday), at 3 O'clock, the Citizens of Sharonville was aroused by their presence in the place. every inhabitant was immediately aroused but to find the Enemy in their midst in forces of seven thousand, and the Soldiers allready in their stables, Stores, and kitchens. Owners hurried, only to their discomfort to be compelled to bridle their own horses for the Enemy, and hand out ready made clothing, tobacco, sugar, Coffee, &c &c such as they could make use of. Whilst Women were compelled to bring forth all of their cooked provisions. They were about four hours passing through.

Their main body passed through The Town but they straggled three mile in width plundering as they went. they had six pieces of artillery, drawn by six horses each. They pressed guides from place to place as they went, and would generally give them a worn horse to return with. In about seven hours after their rear guards passed came the advance pickets of Our Army[,] they being equally as hungry as the former, but had the disadvantage by following in the rear. They pressed many horses, but in this, they had a fearfull disadvantage, as the choice horses ware gone, they had to even take some which the Enemy had left. The Union Soldiers had seven cannon and from 7 to 8 thousand Men. The

¹ For general accounts of the Morgan raid, see Cecil Fletcher Holland, *Morgan and His Raiders* (New York, 1943), Dee Alexander Brown, *The Bold Cavaliers* (New York, 1959), and Basil Duke, *History of Morgan's Cavalry* (Bloomington, Ind., 1960).

route they took you will see buy the papers. They were Skirmished at Camp Dennison, and a few of them crippled and one of Our men killed.

I will enumerate some Persons who lost horses. O. Vanhise, 3. Dr Smyzer, 2. N. McMachen 1 and buggy. J. Firmen 6 or 8. J. Hagemans 4 or 5. Al McCullick 2 or 3. D. Jones 4. Wm. Hopkins 3. Jesse Logan 2. J. Whalon 1. C. Hunt 10. J. Linkmyre 1. S. Morgan 1. Mr. Runnyan, who joins me on the south, 2. D. Burch was driving Runnyans team and had them in Sharon when taken.

Berch being witty, got some ropes and followed the rebs, til he picked up 20 horses which they turned loos, and succeeded in getting 11 of them back to Sharon, the Union Army took one of them. He has gave four of them to Runnyan, and sold out the balance as best he could. This case exciting O. Vanhise, and many others to persue the same course, so O. Vanhise and Smyzer persuades Irvin Miller and some other man who had a horse to hitch to a Spring wagon, and Vanhise got a bedcord, and said they would persue them till they strung that cord full with discharged horses. They set out in hot persuit, they traveled till late in the evening and came within a few miles of Morgans encampment, they then put up for the night in the morning hitched up early, and drove into the rear pickets, of the enemy, when the pickets seized them and took them prisoners, and traded horses with them and then drove them up into camp, when the forces marched off, taking their prisoners withem, when at the distance of 20 miles from camp their money was taken and they ware perroled and sworn, then ordered to remain there until their last pickets were passed by, and then they could proceed home on foot, it being 45 miles from home. By the charity of the people they ware hauled the most of the way home the bed cord tied nary a horse while in their hands! Irvins loss is 150 dollar in horse and money. This is a very short sketch of the account, if I could see you, it would take me a days time to relate all to you.

The Morgan raid created the greatest excitement that I ever seen. You cannot imagine its equals. Citizens in every direction, were running off their horses into back hollows and thick woods. Jake Whalon after loosing one, run two others to Franklin. I was busy in my meadow and did not secreet my horses, but kept a sharp lookout, if danger had appeared on a little notice, there would have been some good running before they would got mine, as it is, I have suffered no loss. There was much loss sustained by the train of thieves, which allways follow Armies in the disguise of Soldiers. . . .

Your Brother
David Hulse

THIRTY-EIGHTH INDIANA REGIMENT

"The Thirty-Eighth Regiment was organized and mustered into service, for three years, at New Albany, on the 18th of September, 1861, and on the 21st of the same month started for Elizabethtown, Kentucky. The fall and winter was passed in camp at Camp Nevin, on Nolin's Fork of Barren river, and at Camp Wood on Green river, near Munfordsville. In February, 1862, it moved with Buell's army in its campaign against Bowling Green and Nashville, reaching the latter place on the 6th of March. On the 25th it moved to Franklin, and from thence to Columbia, and thence to Shelbyville, remaining there until the 11th of May. During its stay in this vicinity, it made frequent and rapid marches to intercept Morgan's cavalry. On the 13th of May the Regiment had a skirmish with the enemy near Rogersville. On the 29th of May it moved toward Chattanooga and arrived opposite that place on the 7th of June, after which it returned to Shelbyville and then moved to Stevenson. It then moved to Decherd, where it remained from the 17th of August until Bragg crossed the Tennessee river, when the regiment fell back to Nashville, and from there marched, with Buell's army, to Louisville.

The regiment engaged in the campaign through Kentucky, and took part in the battle of Perryville, losing twenty-seven killed, one hundred and twenty-three wounded and seven prisoners. Returning from this campaign, the regiment reached Bowling Green on the 2d of November, where it was placed in the First Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps. Early in the following month it moved to Nashville, and from there to the vicinity of Murfreesboro, where, on the 31st of December, 1862, and 1st and 2d of January, 1863, it participated in the battle of Stone River, losing fourteen killed and eighty-six wounded. After the battle the regiment went into camp at Murfreesboro and remained there until the campaign against Chattanooga was commenced. During its stay there it marched out to Hoover's Gap and took part in a severe skirmish, losing one killed and fifteen wounded.

Moving with it corps to Chattanooga, it was engaged on the 19th and 20th of September in the battle of Chicamauga, losing nine killed, fifty-nine wounded and forty-two missing—making a total loss of one hundred and ten. Returning to Chattanooga the regiment remained inactive until the 23d and 25th of November, when it took part in the engagements at Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge. The following winter was passed at Rossville, Georgia, and Chattanooga. While at the former place the regiment re-enlisted on the 28th of December, 1863, and, on the 3d of January, 1864, started home on Veteran furlough, reaching Indianapolis on the 9th, with three hundred and sixty men and officers.

On the 26th of February the regiment returned to Chattanooga, and moved to Tyner's Station in March and Graysville, Georgia, in April. On the 7th of May it marched with Sherman's army in the campaign against Atlanta, engaging in all the skirmishes and battles, including the engagement at Jonesboro, in which the Thirty-Eighth carried the rebel works in a charge. In this charge, the color-bearer being killed as he planted the colors inside the works, First Lieutenant Joseph W. Redding seized the colors and carried them throughout the day. In the Atlanta campaign the regiment lost one hundred and three killed, wounded and missing.

On the 4th of October it marched in pursuit of Hood's retreating army as far as Gaylesville, Alabama, and then returned to Atlanta, from whence it marched, in November, with the Army of Georgia in its campaign through Georgia. After the occupation of Savannah, the regiment remained there until the 5th of February, when it again moved, passing through the Carolinas to Goldsboro, taking part in all the battles and skirmishes worthy of note during the campaign, among which was the battle of Bentonville. From Goldsboro it proceeded to Raleigh, and, after Johnson's surrender, marched, via Richmond and Alexandria, to Washington—a distance of one hundred and ninety-two miles—making the entire distance in six days, an average of thirty-two miles a day. From Washington the regiment was transferred to Louisville, Kentucky, and after remaining at that place for some time was, on the 15th of July, 1865, mustered out of service. Leaving for home, it reached Indianapolis on the 18th of July, with about six hundred men and officers, and on the same day was present at a public reception given to over three thousand returned soldiers in the Capitol grounds, and was addressed by Gov. Morton and others. In a few days after the regiment was finally discharged from service."

FORTY EIGHTH INFANTRY REGIMENT



LIEUT-COLONEL and BREVET BRIGADIER-GENERAL DANIEL F. GRIFFIN

From a photograph taken in Nashville, Tennessee, 1863.

A HOOSIER REGIMENT AT STONE'S RIVER

AN ACCOUNT BY LT. COLONEL DANIEL F. GRIFFIN

EDITED BY ARVILLE L. FUNK

Indianapolis, Indiana

On the day after Christmas in 1862, Major General William Rosecrans, commanding the Union Army of the Cumberland, began the advance on Murfreesboro, Tennessee, that was to result in the bloody five-day Battle of Stone's River. The Army of the Cumberland was organized into three "wings," the Right Wing under the command of General Alexander McCook, the Center under the command of General George Thomas, and the Left Wing under the command of General Thomas L. Crittenden. Serving with Scribner's Brigade, Rousseau's Division, of the Center under Thomas, was the 38th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment commanded by Lt. Colonel Daniel F. Griffin.

On December 30, 1862, at Stone's River, 2½ miles northwest of Murfreesboro, the Right Wing of the Army of the Cumberland was struck by a savage attack of General Braxton Bragg's Confederate Army of Tennessee. This attack opened the terrible slaughter that was to cost the Union Army over 13,000 casualties and Bragg's forces over 10,000 casualties. The first day's fighting drove McCook's troops from the field, but Thomas's divisions held the field the second day and by the third day, the Union forces had turned a disastrous defeat into victory. On January 4th, Bragg began a painful retreat to Tullahoma, 35 miles south of Murfreesboro, where he went into winter quarters and the victorious Army of the Cumberland moved in to occupy Murfreesboro.

The author of the following letter, dated January 9, 1863, was Lt. Colonel Griffin of the 38th Indiana Regiment. The letter to his sweetheart, Mollie Compton, back in New Albany, Indiana, gives a very detailed and graphic account of the regiment's activities on the march and during the battle. Colonel Griffin was to marry Miss Compton in April, 1863, he resigned his commission in November of 1864, and returned home to New Albany where he died of typhoid fever in February, 1865.

The original letter is printed preserving the original spelling and punctuation:

Camp near Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Jan. 9th, 1863

My Dear Mollie,

The smoke of battle having fairly cleared away, the enemy gone I know not how far, nor where to, I have a few moments leisure to devote to friends; and a few days to rest after the fatigues of the past eventful week. I wrote you as promised, on Christmas night and started the letter north at the time the line of march was taken up, for this place, early on the 26th. From that date until the 5th of Jan., all but the Army world was closed to us; no line of communication to receive or send away; not even a news-paper to tell us of the weather; but everything and everybody bending in the direction of, and using every means of taking Murfreesboro. How we succeeded, the papers have doubtless long since told you in glowing colors with heavy headlines. On the 4th or 5th I snatched a few moments from duty on the field and wrote you, to tell of the safety of all your friends; and sent it forward to Nashville; I trust it has reached you long since and that the days of anxiety may have ceased to exist with you and others, for the safety of those on the field.

The incidents connected with our life of ten days from Dec. 26th, would fill a volume if well told, but I shall have to defer the telling of much of my experience until an opportunity occurs for me to relate to you the events. Of our march through the rain and mud, over rocky hills and through dense cedar forests, from our position near Nashville to a point four miles south of Murfreesboro, there is much to tell: of our bivouacing through the entire time, no tents and no conveniences for cooking, or in fact doing anything except to live and soldier in the most primitive style. There was much to experience and much to remember, but then all this was as nothing, compared with the time of the five days fighting, when scarcely a moment passed, either day or night, that there was not heard in close proximity to your camp fire, the rattle of musketry, the whizzing of the balls, or bursting of shells; 'twas our reveille in the morning, our taps at night, and the funeral knell of many a brave boy, during the day.

On the evening of Dec. 30th, we bivouaced (our Brigade) about a mile and a half from the lines of the enemy, and before daybreak of the 31st had eaten our hasty meal and with two days rations in our haversacks, started at break of day, for the front. Taking up position there, the enemy soon made their grand dash en masse, upon the Right wing of our Army, driving them from position ere they were well aware of what was going on. We were ordered through a dense cedar forest to the Right-Center, to support our columns, and moved on the double-quick to the rescue. Soon however we were ordered back to near our old position, arriving there just in time to see the Rebels advancing and charging on to our very Center, they having driven the Right before them. Here we were almost surrounded, the enemy then pressing us on three side; but in the Center they found things prepared for them,

and as they charged over an open field on our Batteries, they were met with such showers of shot and grape, that they broke in disorder and ran pell-mell for the woods. Then part of our Brigade opened upon them and we all advanced; not however, far, until we met another line of our troops almost out of ammunition, retiring slowly before a heavy column of the foe. Only two Regiments of our Brigade being left together, (the others being detached to support Batteries) we moved rapidly into position; opening fire as our forces passed through our lines and completely checking the advance of the enemy. They came into position about 60 yards to our front, and I tell you the bullets did more than whistle around our ears; 'twas a far hotter musketry fire, than I was under at Perryville; and quite as warm as I care about getting in, soon again.

We held our position for about twenty minutes, when we were ordered to retire some 300 yards to the turnpike, and there reform our line. This was done in comparatively good order, the enemy having met with such resistance as taught them 't would not be healthy to follow closely. Again we advanced about 100 yards in front of our Batteries, ready to receive the momentarily expected advance of the Rebels; but they did not venture from the cover of the woods, deeming it best to stay behind the trees, amusing themselves at firing on us at long range. Here we lay from about two o'clock until dark, unable except with our Artillery, to return their fire; while they would open on us heavily, about every fifteen minutes; 'twas dark and after, ere the firing ceased and then 'twas transferred to the picket lines, who banged, banged, banged away all night.

The night was a very severe one, cold and freezing quite hard: no blankets and no fires, as we still occupied the same position, with pickets advanced, and could only keep from freezing by rapid walking along the lines. One hour before day, we were relieved and retired to the woods, in the rear, to make some coffee and thaw out our numbed bodies. We had hardly performed this, when about sunrise the ball again opened on the front, and we again had to move on the double quick, back to our old position or near it; taking position to support a Battery, we were fortunate enough to have our lines in a wooded thicket and in such position that small fires could be used. Here we lay until Monday morning, when we moved to Murfreesboro. The enemy, after having tried to break through our lines each day and failing, doubtless thought discretion the better part of valor, and decamped for parts unknown.

Although we were not in any of the general engagements after Wednesday, yet we were at all times exposed to the enemy's sharpshooters and the range of their Batteries, who would often open upon us until silenced by ours in return. During the whole time, the anxiety was intense, feeling that at any moment your line might be called upon, for offensive or defensive action. 'Twas war in earnest and on a tremendous scale! At times the scene would arise in such grandeur that you would for the time forget you were an actor therein and become almost lost in attention: then again, the reality of the position would be brought vividly before your eyes in all

its dread realities. The elements too, must have their part in the grand drama, and at times the clouds would pour out their torrents upon our devoted heads. Without blankets, with but little to eat, and often no time to eat even what you had, with men in the trenches knee-deep in water not daring to expose themselves to the sharpshooters, with your daily walks for exercise or to see what was going on around you, to be interspersed every moment with the whizzing of a ball close to your ears; all made one quickly realize the presence and majesty of war.

On one day, corn in the ear, was issued to the men, and many of some of the Commands, would take their morning steak from the finest of the horses on the field; yet amidst all this, the men were cheerful, not a murmur, but ever ready to stand to their posts or move whenever ordered.

On Friday evening, a severe engagement on the Left, drove the Rebs in confusion; and on Saturday night, an attack after dark drove them from the Center. This last, a battle after night, was truly grand, the lines to be traced as they advanced or receded, by the steady line of fire. This last seems to have decided their hasty leave, as they commenced at midnight, leaving nothing but a barren town, inhabited only by some 3000 to 5000 wounded, that they could not transport away.

I wrote you that I had lost my horse, Steve. He received three shots, in the fight of the 31st and had just strength to carry me from the field. He was killed next day, not being able to leave the field. Robert's¹ horse received one or two slight wounds; Major Glover's² too. The Maj. had quite a hole torn in the shoulder of his coat. My cape was cut twice; one ball striking my arm just below the shoulder, but cutting only through the cape. My arm is yet blue from the effects of it, but is good as ever. George³ was struck on the pistol scabbard by a ball entering the scabbard and battering up on the side of his pistol; this evidently saved his life. Sam⁴ was with the wagon train, going to Nashville, the guerrillas after them pell-mell. He had a happy time, but succeeded in getting through safe.

I am truly thankful that it has proved no worst with us and that so many of your friends have passed thus far unscathed. May it ever be so, is my prayer. The loss of Capt. Fouts⁵ is a severe one to the Command, and must be a terrible blow to his poor wife. When I think of this, I cannot but wish that this Rebellion be speedily brought to an end; yet that end must to the Union be an honorable one, or better far have none.

Your happy letter of Christmas day came to hand yesterday and cheered me much. I join with you in merry wishes for the New Year and in regrets at my inability to visit you. How I should enjoy a few evenings with you, can best be told by referring to some of the past.

Our tents and camp equipage reached us yesterday and we are again living like Uncle Sam's soldiers. Our cook and cooking operations came along and once more we are living at home. On the field all the boys but mine (Joe) and the Adj't's. went to the

rear with the trains; and these boys saved us from starving during the fight. I don't know what I ever enjoyed more than I did a canteen of hot coffee, they sent me to the field on the night of the 31st, having tasted nothing since before day. Nothing could have pleased me better except indeed, it could have been your cheering presence.

When we shall leave here, or where go to, when we do, are questions I cannot now solve, but hope 'Twill be to victory and then to home.

Remember me to all friends,
Ever yours, Dan

Our losses in the Regiment are,

1 Officer, killed;

14 Enlisted men.

2 Officers, wounded;

82 Enlisted men.

Total, 15 killed,

84 wounded.

Dan F. Griffin.⁶

FOOTNOTES

¹ Robert Cheesbro, Regimental Quartermaster.

² Major John B. Glover, Regt. executive officer.

³ George Devol, Regt. Adjutant.

⁴ Samuel Vance, 1st Lt., Co. H.

⁵ Capt. James C. Fouts, Commanding Co. C.

⁶ The letters and papers of Lt. Colonel Daniel F. Griffin are deposited in the Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Indianapolis, Indiana. The Griffin family gave permission to publish this letter.

A Hoosier Regiment at Chattanooga

EDITED BY ARVILLE L. FUNK

After its defeat at Chickamauga in September of 1863, the Union Army of the Cumberland retreated to the important rail center of Chattanooga. The advancing Confederate Army under General Braxton Bragg then occupied the strategic heights of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge overlooking Chattanooga and by use of siege tactics attempted to force the surrender of the Union force through starvation.

Within a month the Union garrison in the besieged city was in a desperate situation, and General Grant was sent to take command, bringing with him General Sherman's Army of the Tennessee from Vicksburg and also a detachment from the Army of the Potomac under Major General Joseph Hooker. The Union reinforcements arrived in time to save the surrounded Union force by opening a new supply route into the city.

The next month, General Grant planned an offensive to drive the Confederates from their positions overlooking the city. This offensive is known as the Battle of Chattanooga and involved a three day engagement, November 23-25, with actions at Orchard Knob, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. The offensive began on November 23rd with General George H. Thomas's troops seizing the Confederate trenches at Orchard Knob and General Sherman's men attacking the positions on the north end of Missionary Ridge. The next day, Hooker's forces advanced on Lookout Mountain, fought the famous "battle above the clouds," and secured the mountain for the Union by daylight on the 25th. On the afternoon of the 25th occurred the most dramatic part of the action when Grant ordered Thomas and the Army of the Cumberland to make a frontal assault on the Confederate positions on the center of Missionary Ridge.

The Cumberland troops remembering their defeat at Chickamauga swept up the heights of the ridge, not stopping until they had driven the enemy from their entrenchments and forced Bragg's army to make a painful retreat into northwestern Georgia.

Serving with the First Brigade, First Division, 14th Corps, of the Army of the Cumberland was the 38th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment, commanded by Lt. Colonel Daniel F. Griffin.

Colonel Griffin gave a very graphic account of the action at Chattanooga in two letters, dated December 1st and December 4th, 1863, to his wife back in New Albany, Indiana. Colonel Griffin was to resign his commission in November of 1864, and to return to his home at New Albany, where he died of typhoid fever in February of 1865.

The original letters are printed preserving the original spelling and punctuation:

Chattanooga, Tenn., Dec. 1st, 1863

My Dear Wife:

Events have been passing so rapidly and of so momentous a character that I scarce know where to commence telling, nor what to tell. I should like to have a day to write you of the movements; but so much time seems just now to be denied me, as Report after Report and duty after duty multiply so rapidly. Have now from tattoo, the evening to myself, to be interrupted only by the comers in and by an occasional chat with Col. Scribner,¹ who is staying with me for the time being.

Of our particular movements I can give you a hasty sketch, commencing on Monday, Nov. 23rd, when we were suddenly ordered into the rifle pits on our Front, while a demonstration was made from the Left, successfully driving back the enemy's first lines and possessing their first line of rifle pits, half way to Mission Ridge.² This over, we lay on our Arms, and during the night changed position from the Right to the Front near Rossville road, (I mean our Brigade). Meantime and pending these movements, Gen'l Sherman with a heavy force moved up the river on the north side with pontoon train, designing to cross the river near mouth of Chickamauga River and possess the east end of Mission Ridge. Of course all these movements could be seen by the enemy from their Lookout points and they apparently massed their strength to resist the advance of our Left from Chattanooga, and Sherman's advance across the river and occupation of Mission Ridge.

Tuesday morning opened rainy and disagreeable and the morning passing swiftly away while nothing seemed doing except by the Artillery from our forts, our whole force was under arms and the shifting columns at least, told of work to be done: presently, about 11 o'clock, came an occasional shot from the western slope of Lookout Mt. that soon swelled into a brisk skirmish and then again into a mighty crash of musketry and artillery. This told us that Hooker was engaging the enemy's Left and then striving for the mastery of Lookout, whose towering summit bathed in clouds, occasionally belched forth from its heavy guns upon the advancing column below. But on came the advancing lines, the center of every eye from our part of the field, and with cheer after cheer we hailed the advancing line of blue coats as they gained the summit of the Ridge. Occasionally the clouds and mist would lower, hiding the

¹ Colonel Benjamin Scribner, Brigade commander.

² The Capture of Orchard Knob, a low hill about a mile in front of Missionary Ridge.

combatants from view, but each time as the curtain rose, they could be seen advanced to new positions. About this time, the attention of the enemy was called to their Right. Sherman had struck the river, crossed and driven them from their first position and was then fighting for the mastery of Mission Ridge, or at least a portion of it. Then came our time to move; fearful the enemy might mass against Hooker's small force, our Brigade was moved rapidly down the point with a Battery, toward the mouth of Chattanooga creek; opened on the enemy's flank with shell, driving them and soon had a pontoon boat from above and crossed the creek, about sixty at a time and commenced the ascent of Lookout to the support of our troops who had now ceased advancing and were now engaged in holding their position. Half way up we passed "fighting Joe" the very personification of a soldier, dictating an Order to be carried to the Front. Darkness was now fast crowding upon us, but up, up, we went, occasionally saluted with the familiar whiz of the rifle balls as they crossed our path: up til two-thirds way to the summit is gained, when we take position on what a few hours before, was the enemy's formidable rifle pits; here for an hour and then to the relief of the tired troops on the Front, who still kept up an incessant fire of musketry; the Rebs most obstinately holding their ground, as it covered the approaches by the Summerville road to the top of the mountain and if taken, all on top must be captured.

The 38th, and the 33rd Ohio were ordered to relieve the extreme Right and moved off and up and up, until the base of the perpendicular cliffs, only some 50 ft. from the summit, was gained; and then by what you might call goatpaths around the base, until fairly above the combatants, upon whom we looked down, tracing the contending lines and in position to nicely enfilade the foe should be advance; while at the same time we prevented their occupying the coveted ground. The 2nd* and others of our Brig. fared not so well, for as they moved into position the enemy made a dash, but 'twas too late, a well directed fire sent them quickly back, with loss. Here Capt. Warnie was wounded, you remember him, don't you? The handsome man of the Command who, you thought one day at Anderson Station, "walked so queerly for a sober man." Poor fellow, he is a good soldier. The skirmish line still kept banging away until one o'clock, when by mutual consent, they seemed to stop and set up a jolly conversation interspersed with not a few oaths; but even this gave way and at 2 A.M. silence reigned supreme.

Meantime the clouds had disappeared, the moon shone full, and to our view was exhibited the most beautiful night scene I ever beheld: beneath us the mountain side spotted with fires, while the river like a silver band, seemed to encircle the base of the mountain, then stretching away toward the city, wound gracefully around it, passing on to the foot of Mission Ridge, cheering with its reflection, the camp fires of the gallant Sherman who had gained his point. Suddenly there came a darkening over this extended panorama and looking up, we beheld the dark disc of the earth's shadow passing slowly o'er the face of the moon; even as our advancing Armies were then blotting out the light of the Confederacy.*

* The 2nd Ohio Infantry Regiment.

* There was an almost total lunar eclipse, visible throughout the United States,

A HOOSIER REGIMENT AT CHATTANOOGA

But amidst all this grandeur one must needs think of self, or at least the biting cold was a good remainder of what was yet undone and bade us prepare for the coming morrow. Old Lookout's shaggy locks were fast becoming grey with the morning frosts, and fires had to be built notwithstanding they might draw the fire of a sharp-shooter: but they did not, and the morning hours stole slowly away as I dozed against the huge cliffs, my feet toasting by an ember fire. At daylight came the stir of rising hosts; but why not a shot, is asked by all: the mystery soon breaks away when the word comes from the Front that the enemy had fled their position, leaving us masters of the ground. As the dawn advanced, the smoke rising in volumes from the valley beyond showed every sign of a retiring foe, destroying their camps as they moved.

But my dear, I must here close the description of the affair to be taken up in my next, and pass through with you, the advance upon and assault of Mission Ridge. I have already written you of our unparalleled success and even as I write, come in reports of still more successes on our Left toward East Tenn.; may the good work go bravely on I pray, until Armed Rebellion can no longer raise its head in this glorious land.

Would have written more tonight but for an interruption of an hour, having had to report to Div. Hdqtrs. for some instructions, as this regiment with one of the 2nd Div. moves to Rossville tomorrow; perhaps for a permanent camp, perhaps to remain only a few weeks. At any rate, indications seem to point to this Division remaining here or close about and going into winter quarters, an idea very satisfactory to me, I assure you. Had expected to move tomorrow to the summit of Lookout, but it has been changed and we go at present to Rossville, five miles distant. Balance of Brig. yet remains here.

By the way, Gen'l Carlin* leaves in the morning on leave of absence and Col. Scribner assumes Command of the Brigade. Col. says, give his "love to Mollie, God bless her," and to have you tell "Mrs. Scrib" that he is "O.K." George[†] is yet on duty at Hdqtrs. and of course will now continue so. Your other friends in the Regiment are doing well: Maj. Carter[‡] is getting along nicely.

Cannot even now do justice to your last good letter by an answer; I shall again read carefully and pay it all due attention after locating in my new home. I send this by favor of Capt. Webb;[§] he has been dishonorably dismissed the Service in General Orders, but don't seem to mind it a bit. So goes some of the world. But my dear, it has got so late I must take a sound nap to prepare for the morrow; but remember I am not going to the front, as you can't find an armed Reb within twenty miles of here now; merely to station as an outpost, I shall write

on the morning of November 25, 1863. The greatest obscuration occurred at 2:48 A.M., Chattanooga time (*The National Almanac and Annual Record for the Year 1863* (Philadelphia, 1863), 9.

* Brig. General William P. Carlin, original commander of 1st Brigade.

† Lt. George H. Devol, Regimental adjutant.

‡ Major William L. Carter, 38th Ind. executive officer.

§ Captain George W. Webb, commanding Co. A, of 38th Regt.

you from there as soon as straightened up. Meantime, remember me as ever,

Yours, Dan. F. Griffin

Rossville, Ga., Dec. 4th, 1863

My Dear Wife:

My last letter written from Chattanooga just on the eve of departure, gave you a slight history of our campaign up to, and including the operations of Tuesday on Lookout. Will now continue, not that I may add anything to what you may have already seen, but as it is more closely identified with our operations, may yet have additional interest in your sight.

Up to this time we had passed safely along, having but two men slightly wounded, notwithstanding we had performed our part in holding the Mountain and for which our Brigade was especially mentioned in Orders from Maj. Gen'l Hooker. By the way, I saw "Fighting Joe" for the first time as we were slowly wending our way up the steep sides of Lookout, the perspiration dripping from every pore as we strained our nerves to the task, for never was climbing more difficult; I passed close by him and was struck with the peculiar dash of his appearance; tall, rather good-looking; dressed with exquisite taste, he looked many years younger than I had anticipated, and in every respect would have filled your beau ideal of a dashing soldier; yet calm as though nothing of importance was going on around him. But I must leave him and hasten on.

As day advanced, I was somewhat surprised at not hearing the skirmishers banging away at each other, and as the light advanced the secret was explained by the vacant space of the Rebels. "They all" having cleared the Mountain before day. Soon our lines were changed and from our lofty pinnacle we slowly descended the rugged cliffs just at sunrise to reform our lines and start on our mission for the day. Just then our ears were saluted with lusty shouts and cheers, and looking to know why, beheld the Stars and Stripes floating in the morning sun from the very summit of old Lookout, just above our perch of the night before. Of course three times three were given to the starry emblem that then floated from whence, for the past two months we had heard nought but the thunderings of Rebel cannon and had seen nothing but their dirty forms, as they would stand perched on the cliffs between us and a clear blue sky.

Reforming on the side hill, we yet could overlook the Chattanooga Valley and beheld the smoking embers of the Rebel picket fires and farther toward Mission Ridge, their smoking camps that they were then abandoning and destroying. Half way down, a halt for half an hour to allow Hooker's forces to pass to the Front; I was agreeably surprised by the arrival of our boys from camp, with hot coffee, bread, etc, together with my brown socks, sent out by some one from camp; the same I think, your mother sent me. But first came the eating which was relished in my most approved style; and soon after, we moved down

A HOOSIER REGIMENT AT CHATTANOOGA

the Mountain to take position at the foot and hold the Summerville road. By this time the columns of Hooker had all passed to the front designing to cross Chattanooga Creek on the road to Rossville and assault Mission Ridge at that point simultaneous with the assaults on the Left and Center. We had hardly taken up our position when the Order came to join Gen'l Palmer⁹ (who now commands our Corps) on the Chattanooga Front; so off we started for the mouth of Chattanooga Creek, crossing on pontoon bridge and moving up the narrow neck of land again, struck out for the Front, striking the Rossville road in front of Fort Negley; moved out this road to within three-quarters of a mile of Mission Ridge, halted, apparently awaiting orders. By this time 'twas about three o'clock P.M. Sherman on our extreme Left had been engaged nearly all day with varying success; while the Center was awaiting the auspicious moment to advance on the Ridge with apparent hopes of carrying it by assault. Our Corps lay opposite the Center in line of battle; our Div. occupying the Right; we moved (our brigade) back a short distance, filed to the left of the Rossville Road and apparently moved into position to rest. Then Gen'l. Johnson¹⁰ rode to our lines, gave his Orders and in half an hour we were in two lines facing the much dreaded Mission Ridge and awaiting the Orders to advance. Suspense was of short duration and we now found ourselves moving on the Rebel stronghold, when half an hour before, we had not dreamed of entering the engagement on this day. But on we swept in line, through a forest half cut down and interspersed with small streams and Rebel rifle pits. Soon the edge of the woods was gained and to the left I could see our entire line of the Center advancing upon the Ridge.

The enemy now began to show themselves in numbers sufficient to blacken the crest of the hill; now their Battery on the left opens upon us, now one on the right, but on sweeps the line; another line of rifle pits crossed and an open space of 200 yds will bring us to another, near the foot of the Ridge; with a long, loud yell the space was cleared and the men already tired, sank down behind its protecting banks, while the bullets, shell and grape swept harmlessly above us.

The Ridge is about the height of the Tuley Knob and about as steep to climb as where we pleasure seekers used to go on moonlight nights, in search of adventure.

Our Brig. now formed but one line, the 2nd Ohio on the Right, 38th next, etc, immediately in our front was a kind of ravine, making the hill even more precipitous when we reached the base; while on either side of us, the spur extended further out into the Valley; to our left and half way up the hill, was another line of Rebel rifle pits, swarming with the individuals to whom our compliments were quickly given, and in a few minutes sent the whole horde scampering up the hill. This was the signal for our Left to advance, so up they go, climbing and firing slowly, until they at last gained the vacated pits, and then behind them again sought shelter.

⁹ Maj. Gen. J. M. Palmer, commanding 14th Corps.

¹⁰ Brig. Gen. Richard W. Johnson, commanding 1st Division, 14th Corps.

Meantime came the Order to advance the Right, and up we sprang; whiz, came a bullet on the arm, but as it did not hurt, I took it for granted no harm was done.

Over the rifle pits and away, for the base of, or rather up the slope of the hill; the fire was terrible and the men forced to take shelter as best they could in the friendly ravine and jutting rocks, gaining a little breath for the next pull, for the hill-top was yet above us and clustering with dusky Rebs. We had got too close for their Batteries to be of much use to them as they could not depress sufficiently, but as there were no friendly rifle pits to give us protection, we had to take the storm of bullets.

This finally became so warm that the 2nd Ohio, by Order, started back for the line of rifle pits; following the movements of the line, we followed suit. I had hardly made two steps backward when bang, came a ball square in the back; as this did not impede progress however, I soon gained the rifle pits, rallied the men, and as the Rebs showed some disposition to follow down the hill, we sent them back in very quick time as soon as they came from under cover, notwithstanding their Officers flourished swords manfully and doubtless swore not a little.

Meantime the Left held their position half way up the hill. Hooker had opened with Osterhaus' flying Battery¹¹ and had commenced the assault on the Right; while the Left and Left-Center gradually climbed the hill. Now they have gained the summit and once more we receive Orders and move up, this time one-third the distance gained under light fire, the half distance and no fire at all opposed us; the summit gained and the flying Rebs were scampering through the valley beyond. By this time the whole Ridge was gained, their Artillery captured, and they flying from us in hot haste. Quickly advancing our line and swinging to the left, we were soon met by Osterhaus' gallant Div. sweeping up from the Right, and between us we "gobbled up" 1 Lt. Col., 2 Majors, 25 Line Officers and 282 privates. 'Twas now sundown and as cheer after cheer arose along the Ridge we were told the day was ours; there was no mistaking the sound, 'twas not the sickly yell of the Rebs, but the clear, round cheers of thousands of happy Union boys.

My Regiment with the 76th Ohio of Osterhaus' Div. were detailed to take charge of prisoners, and in half an hour I was moving with my motley crew toward Chattanooga; of course the boys were in the best of spirits, for although Bragg yet held out at Tunnel Hill, still we felt sure that if he remained there until morning, he was ours.

In the assault Maj. Carter was struck in the fleshy part of the thigh, making an ugly but not dangerous wound; seven others of my boys were wounded at the same time, but thanks to a Kind Providence, I believe all will get well. Surely we have been especially cared for, in this terrible contest.

Moved to town, deposited our prisoners in the big depot; had to furnish part of my Command to guard them and with the balance moved to our old camp where the men could have shelter, and myself

¹¹ Brig. Gen. Peter Osterhaus, commanding 1st Division, 15th Corps.

A HOOSIER REGIMENT AT CHATTANOOGA

a cup of Carpenter's best coffee with the indispensable, etc. The Major (Commanding) and Adjt. of the 76th were my guests and their men, the guests of the Regiment. A happier lot of mortals you have never seen, for they had been lying out for four days and expected to bivouac that night out in the cold. Next morning at sunrise as we moved out, they saluted our boys with three hearty cheers for their Hoosier hospitality.

During all this, I had not forgotten you my dear, but hastened to the Telegraph Office Wednesday night, to announce my safety; which I hope you received in due time. Joined our Brigade on the Ridge about 9 A.M. having four days rations on hand and ready for anything. Lt. Kelso,¹² who staid with us to see the fight has doubtless told you much that I could not, and perhaps has given you the mememtoes taken from my overcoat on the night of the 25th.

Remained but a short time on the Ridge, when off started our Div. for Graysville and Ringgold, or at least in that direction; our Brigade in advance, the 38th in advance of the Brig.; with 2 companies as skirmishers, another as support, while the remaining 7 moved in line of battle (you understand all these movements, of course, after your Summer's experience). We advanced to Chickamauga River, picking up in that distance, say six miles, 1 Rebel Capt. and 27 stragglers, all of whom had their "rights" or were fast getting them. Here we found the bridge burned, and two hours time consumed in effecting a crossing, when we were relieved of the advance by the 42nd Ind. and took position in the column. Advanced very cautiously, now growing dusk, meeting but a few of the enemy's Cavalry, and about 9 P.M. quietly formed line of battle within a few hundred yards of the crossing of the Lafayette and Ringgold roads. The line formed, we could plainly hear the drivers and teamsters "cussing," yelling and making a noise generally, apparently with trains in the mud. Much time was consumed in preparation, as we had some ugly little streams to cross; and Hooker was at the same time to operate on the right. At last all was ready and through the woods we advanced on my first night attack, now knowing what we might run against.

But on we swept; then came a few hurried shots, a yell, a charge, and four pieces of artillery and quite a number of prisoners were ours. Our Div. then changing direction to the left, swept down upon Graysville, on the banks of the east Chickamauga, capturing many of the unwary as they lay around their comfortable camp fires, on their beds, or as they essayed an escape over the hills.¹³

Meantime Hooker pressed on a few miles toward Ringgold, and we bivouaced at midnight in and around Graysville, appropriating without much ceremony, the Rebel fires but not their beds, as we cared but little for the capture of the breed of "graybacks." On the 2nd we moved here, my Regiment and the 11th Mich. of the 2nd Brigade, your most obdt. in Command of the Outpost.

Love to all. Ever yours, Lt. Col. Dan

¹² Lt. James V. Kelso, Regimental Quartermaster, resigned November, 1863.

¹³ Officially known as Battle of Graysville, November 27, 1863.

Marker At Chickamauga



THIRTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT INDIANA INFANTRY.

On East Kelly Field Line.

A HOOSIER REGIMENT IN GEORGIA, 1864

Contributed by ARVILLE L. FUNK*

DURING the early days of May, 1864, the great Union army of the West composed of over 100,000 men and commanded by General William T. Sherman moved out of the extreme northwest corner of Georgia and began a four-month campaign against the Confederate Army of Tennessee commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston. This great Union force was organized into three "armies," the Army of the Cumberland under Thomas, the Army of Tennessee under McPherson, and the Army of the Ohio under Schofield. The climax of this campaign during the summer of 1864, was the capture of Atlanta, the very important rail center in the heart of the Confederacy.

One of the western regiments serving in Thomas' Army of the Cumberland was the 38th Indiana Veteran Volunteer Infantry Regt., commanded by Lt. Colonel Daniel F. Griffin. The 38th Indiana had received its baptism of fire at Perryville, Kentucky, in October of 1862, and then had followed the "Bloody Trail" of Stone's River, Tullahoma Campaign, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge before beginning the 1864 summer campaign in Georgia. The 38th was to take part in the "March to the Sea" and at the end of the war be named in the select group of "The Three Hundred Fightingest Regiments" of the Union Army. Lt. Colonel Griffin, the author of the following report concerning the regiments activities in the campaign, resigned just two months after completing the report and on returning to his home at New Albany, Indiana, died of typhoid fever in February, 1865.

The following report on the 38th's activities during this Georgia campaign was written to the Acting Assistant Adjutant of the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Division, 14th Corps of which the regiment was a part. The original spelling and punctuation have been preserved in reproducing the entire report (with the exception of

the list of casualties). This document is in the possession of the present contributor.

Hd Qtrs 38th Indiana Vet. Vols.

Jonesboro, Ga. Sept 5th 1864

LIEUT: I have the honor to report the following as the part taken by the 38th Regt Ind Vet Vol Inf. in the Summer Campaign of 1864 in the State of Georgia.

May 3d 1864 moved from Maysville Ga. as part of the 3d Brig. 1st Div. 14th Army Corps (Col. B. F. Scribner 38th Ind. commanding Brigade) stopping at Ringgold until May 7th 1864 when the Rgmt participated in the advance on and occupation of Tunnel Hill the Enemy retiring to Buzzard Roost Gap. May 9th advanced on Buzzard Roost with the Brigade, driving the Enemy's Skirmishers and occupying an advanced position under a heavy fire of Artillery, loosing in this advance and position 2 Enlisted men Killed, 3 officers and eleven (11) Enlisted men wounded. May 12th marched from Buzzard Roost passing through Snake Creek Gap and participating with the Brigade in the advance on Resacca May 14th and 15th without loss. May 16th commenced pursuit of the Enemy, passing through Calhoun, Adairsville and Kingston. Crossing Etowah River at Island Ford May 23d taking position May 24th in front of Enemy's works near Dallas. May 27th moved with the Brigade and Division supporting Gen. Wood's Div. 14 A.C. passing to the front and left, striking the Enemy on Little Pumpkin Vine Creek, the Brigade advancing on the left of said Division, the 38th with 1st Wis. Infy. was ordered to the left flank to occupy and hold a hill of some importance which was done, driving the Enemy's Skirmishers and Cavalry from it, with a loss to the 38th of two (2) privates wounded; at midnight the command was withdrawn by order, building works on a rear line. And from the date until June 5th when the Enemy was forced to withdraw from their position, the Rgmt was under continious fire of both Artillery and Musketry, loosing one (1) private Killed and two (2) wounded. June 6th participated in the pursuit going into position some three (3) Miles in front of Kennesaw Mt. here on the 17th of June the 38th was ordered to the front to advance the lines and did so charging the Enemy's Skirmish pits capturing fifteen (15) prisoners with their arms. Early on the 18th again advanced the line Charged their pits, capturing four (4) prisoners and drivin gthe Enemy in our front to their main works near foot of Kennesaw Mt. and holding the position 600 yds there from under a heavy artillery and Musketry

fire during these advances the Rgmt lost 2 Killed and 5 wounded. The Enemy again forced from his lines, the Rgmt with Brigade went into position near Southwest end of Kennesaw, again moving on the night of 22nd about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the right taking position on Bald Knob 700 yds from Enemy's main works and from which the most vigorous Shelling was kept up daily on our lines, the Rgmt loosing 1 Killed and 3 wounded. Remained in this position until night of July 2d Whe nthe Brigade moved to the left flank only to find the Enemy in retreat, moving of July 3d followed in pursuit at once, passing through Marietta, and forcing July 5th to near their main works on the Chattahoochee River. On this date Colonel Scribner having been taken quite sick the command of the Brigade devolved upon Col. Given 74th Ohio Vet Vols. July 9th the Rgmt supported the 21st Ohio Vet Vols in advancing the skirmish line north of the Chattahoochee River, when a spirited and gallant affair ensued, the 21st Charging and carrying the Enemy's Rifle pits, the 38th as a reserve loosing 5 wounded during the affray. July 15th Col. H. F. Moore 69th Ohio Vet Vol. Inf. having been assigned to the command of the Brigade, and subsequent operations of the Rgmt coming under your personal observation I shall be brief as possible. July 17th crossed the Chattahoochee River near Vinnings Station advancing and participating in the Skirmishing from that point, to the crossing of Nancy's and Peach Tree Creeks. On the 20th was in the front line during the engagement of that day, loosing 1 Captain and 4 Enlisted men wounded. July 21st Regt was ordered on a reconaissance, finding the Enemy $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the front, returned with a loss of 1 Killed and 1 wounded. Afternoon of 21st as part of first line supported Lt. Col. Brigham 69th Ohio V. Vols. in his advance of Skirmish line, his regt and line gallantly Charged across open fields, driving and Capturing many of the Enemy, the 38th with 21st Ohio and 37th Ind. following as support pressed the lines to within 400 yards of Enemy's main works, and occupied the same at 1 O'Clock A.M. the enemy retreating on Atlanta, in this advance the Rgt lost 1 Killed and 4 wounded. July 22nd participated in advance on Atlanta, going into position in front of their works and about 2 miles from the city. July 28th moved with the Brigade to support the Army of the Tennessee, then engaged with the enemy, went into on the flank of said army, throwing up works but did not become engaged. From this date until Aug. 25th P.M. the Regt participated in the Skirmishers and advances made by the Brig. in the vicinity of Atlanta, taking with the Brigade an advanced position in the lines on Aug. 9th and 10th within

1,000 yds of Enemy's main works, losses though light were of almost daily occurrence. Aug. 25th 9 P.M. left position in front of Atlanta to take part in the movements south of that point, Joined Div. (from which Brigade had been temporarily detached) on night of 25th. Aug. 26th occupied a flank line of works, Aug. 27th and 28th moved south westerly Striking Atlanta and West Point R. R. 6 miles south of East Point on afternoon of 28th. 29th assisted in destroying R. R. which was done effectively. Aug. 30th moved in direction of Macon R. R. advancing to within 4 miles of Jonesboro. Sept 1st commenced movement Eastward toward R. R. 3d Brigade in advance of Corps, moved out on the Rough and Ready and Jonesboro road, Soon meeting the Enemy's Skirmishers lines were formed 2nd Brigade on right 3d Brigade on left, advancing thus for about a mile through fields, swamps, sloughs and creeks, driving the Enemy's skirmishers and gaining the R. R. about 2 miles north of Jonesboro then connecting with the 4th A.C. lines referred about 4 o'clock P.M. in same order facing south, the left of 3d Brig. resting on R.R. the 38th right of second line, advanced through an immense thicket under fire of Enemy's skirmishers who were driven by our skirmish line (of which Co. "D" Capt James H. Low formed a part) across an open field and into their works in woods beyond, the first line of Brig. followed closely, putting up light works in edge of timber, while second line were halted a hundred yds in rear and also put up a fight-line of works. The first-line now advancing became hotly engaged in the woods, the fight extending to the right for some distance with great fury, the other Rgmts from secondline were ordered forward to support the first, leaving the 38th for a time a spectator to the gallant charges of our comrades, soon however came an order for the 38th to advance and crossing the field was ordered to take if possible the Enemy's works, moving to the right of the Brigade line woods were entered then deploring Co. "G" Capt H. F. Perry, and Co "H" Lieut David H. Patton as skirmishers, the advance was given and acted upon with alacrity, the men in the face of a terrible fire. Charging over the fallen timber and at last Struck the works and carried them, thereon swinging by a wheel to the left advanced down the line towards the R.R. clearing the pits and traverses as they passed, hurrying the prisoners to the rear, in a Short time the Brigade front was cleared the R.R. gained and a rebel section of Artillery and Infantry colors escaping only by rapid running; on the left of the R.R. no advance seemed to be made and the enfilading fire from there was such that safety required that the left bank should be taken, so across the R.R.

down and up the sides of a ten feet cut did the men charge, clearing the works at sixty yards beyond until in fact they came under the fire of our men of the 4th Corps who were 300 yds to the rear, this caused a withdrawal towards the left bank of the R.R. which was held together with the right bank and rebel works to the right; the Enemy's Battery was now in its second position not 400 yds down the R.R. and hurled the canister directly against us, no advance being made by the troops on left of R.R. the Enemy rallied, advanced up their traversed line to within four (4) rods of our position, and finally caused a withdrawal from that side of the road, after losing Maj. Carter wounded and Capt Jenkins and Perry wounded and Lieut Osborn Killed, while Enlisted men fell in proportion. Having now withdrawn to right bank of R.R. still occupying the full Brigade front of rebel works, (the 74th Ohio having taken position on the right) and seeing no prospect of the advance of troops on the left of R.R. and having received notice that all the troops of our Brig. were then in action, I deemed it but slaughter of the men who had done so gallantly, to remain longer exposed to the terrible enfilading fire from the left and consequently withdrew about dusk in good order to the open field in rear. The Enemy fought with the greatest desperation, and after first entering their works 'twas a continue fight—along their line of traverses from each section, many not dropping their guns until fired on or clubbed with the rifle. The smallness of the command deterred me from sending prisoners to the rear under guard although 41 were thus disposed of, but I am certain the estimate is none to high when I say 100 at least were sent to the rear by the Rgt.

To both officers and men of the Regt I desire saying they did their every duty, and did it well; Maj. Carter was Ever at his post until stricken down. Capts Jenkins and Perry and Lieut Osborn were also struck while in the very front. The color bearer (Lance Sergt George W. Field C. "C") was instantly Killed as he planted his colors on the R.R. bank, they were taken up and carried throughout the balance of the action by Lieut Joseph W. Redding Co. "D" whom I would especially mention for his gallant conduct. The Regimental color was carried safely through by Sergt Owens Co. "I". The losses in the engagement were 1 Officer and 7 Enlisted Killed, 3 Officers and 25 Enlisted men wounded, 1 Enlisted man missing, for recapitulation of casualties of the Campaign I respectfully refer you to accompanying Sheet marked "B". During the entire campaign of 4 months although

exposed to almost continuous fire, hard labor and marches, both Officers and men have at all times acted with alacrity energy and Cheerfulness.

Very Respectfully
Your Most Obedt

D. F. Griffin

Lt. Col. Comdg 38th Ind Vols

A HOOSIER REGIMENT IN ALABAMA

by Arville L. Funk

In July of 1864, General Joseph E. Johnston's Confederate Army of Tennessee was desperately engaged in the great Battle of Atlanta with General Sherman's Union forces. On the 17th of that month, Johnston was removed from command of the army and General John B. Hood was named to replace him. After Hood had led his new command in the severe fighting at Peach Tree Creek and Ezra Church, the Atlanta struggle settled down to a siege that was to last until the first of September. On September 2nd, General Sherman's victorious troops occupied Atlanta and Hood's Confederate force began a retreat into the mountain section of northwestern Georgia.

Hood had initially planned to attack Sherman's supply and communication lines in the mountain section, but had to change his strategy when Wheeler's Cavalry reported that the Union army was concentrated too strongly for any major attacks. Hood then retreated west into Alabama, moving toward a rendezvous with the new Confederate commander in the West, General G. T. Beauregard. The rendezvous occurred at the city of Gadsden on October 20th.

About the same date, certain elements of the Union Army of The Cumberland, including the 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, were sent into northeastern Alabama in pursuit of Hood's army. Serving in this brigade was the 38th Indiana Veteran Volunteer Infantry Regiment, commanded by Lt. Colonel Daniel F. Griffin. The 38th Indiana had participated in all of the campaigns of the Army of The Cumberland from Perrysville to Atlanta, and after the activities mentioned in this letter, the regiment took part in Sherman's "March To The Sea."

The author of the following letter, Lt. Colonel Griffin, resigned his commission just two weeks after this letter was written. He returned to his home at New Albany, Indiana, where he died of typhoid fever in February of 1865.

Griffin's letter to his wife in New Albany, written from Gaylesville, gives a very interesting account of the regiment's activities in Alabama and interesting report of the impression of the area and its inhabitants. The original letter is printed preserving the original spelling and punctuation:

Gaylesville, Ala.
October 22, 1864

My dear Wife;

You will have to get your map or atlas and again commence the study of geography to ascertain my whereabouts; nor am I certain that this will give you the desired information, as we are now in the mountains, hid almost from the world; though I have no doubt but that the world is looking anxiously for and toward us.

Though near the mountains, we are in one of Alabama's richest valleys, living on the fat of the land; hogs, chickens, geese, ducks and sweet potatoes being our chief articles of diet. Orders are to forage and live partially off the country and the men do it with a will, I assure you. In fact, men and animals are living better than they have for a year, much to the disgust of the inhabitants; still, most of them have sense enough to say but little and think that had General Hood¹ staid away from here, we would have remained absent. However, I guess it is but right that these people should feel some of the hardships of war, they will better appreciate peace when it does come, and be not so ready to rush widely into the same vortex again.

Many a case of wanton destruction of property must or does occur, done by irresponsible foragers and worthless stragglers, which can not well be prevented in so large an Army. Orders are to protect the citizens in their private property and leave them enough to live on, until the next crop is made; which I trust may be peaceable harvested and housed without the fear of armies.

I wrote you last from Lafayette; can't remember the date;

¹Gen. John B. Hood, commanding Confederate Army of Tennessee.

since which time we have crossed Taylor's Ridge, coming down the Chattanooga River Valley to this point, our Cavalry harassing the enemy's rear. Here we have been for two days, the Army concentrated; and from indications will remain to-morrow, perhaps longer, though a move may be made at any moment, but in what direction, none but the powers that be, can guess.

Hood's Army, I cannot say where they are, but not close. They have studiously avoided a fight since their last thrashing at Allatoona,* and I doubt if we could come up with them even should we pursue farther. Reports say they are going to the Blue Mountains of Alabama, but from there whence, I cannot say. What I wish most for, is for the campaign to close soon and give us a chance to reorganize, and myself to go home to wife and boy.

Dr. Curry† and Charley Van Dusen‡ were mustered out yesterday, under the late Order allowing Officers who had served three years to be mustered out. They start for Rome tomorrow, thence to Atlanta and thence home. They seem to be superlatively happy, so goes the world.

But thus far I have forgotten to tell you of receipt of your welcome letter of the 9th. It came to hand this morning, the first mail since leaving Kingston. What a God-send it did seem to me, benighted citizen of this secluded valley.

Am glad Frank's whooping cough is not very bad and trust he may get well of it ere the bad weather sets in. I should like to see him traveling around the room in his peculiar style, happy in the innocence of his young heart and the smiles of his mother. I could almost envy him his enjoyment, but let us hope the time may not be far distant when I may be with you. Also I can appreciate your feelings and the goodness and patriotism of your warm heart, at feeling that whatever be my decision as to the time I remain, "it is but right." I trust the time will soon come that a happy country may repay you for

*Battle of Allatoona, (near present Cartersville, Ga.), Oct. 5, 1864.

†Dr. John Curry, Regimental Surgeon of 38th Ind.

‡Capt. Charles Van Dusen, commanding Co. B, 38th Ind.

this disinterestedness and casting aside of selfishness.

Poor Gresham,³ what a time he must have and what suffering endure; and how much it must necessarily affect the happiness of Tillie. May his case speedily improve, is my most ardent wish.

I rather guess, could you see your husband in his top boots, old coat and dusty hat, you would be ordering me to the first tailor shop in the country. Not much old maid style, I can assure you. Carpenter⁴ is yet with me and well, but very anxious to get home. Don't know whether I shall ask him to stay much longer, unless I can see the close of the campaign is near at hand. He has been and is, very faithful. Guess I shall have to give him a pension in the way of drinks for at least during the War, on his return home.

Met Dr. Payne and Babbitt yesterday, both well. Dr. expects to go home as soon as the campaign closes, or as soon as he can close up his Accounts and Returns. He is now with the 1st Div. 17th A.C.

Have had the election returns from the State, they have come all right, only I think the 2nd District should be sliced off into Ky. or left out in the cold somewhere, for being the only one behind in the good work. Am now confident of Mr. Lincoln's reelection and the think the country safe.

Convey my congratulations to high private Croxall; tell him to come here and I will make him a color bearer at once.

My regards to friends, and to all at home, love.

Ever your devoted husband,

Dan F. Griffin

Lt. Col. 38th Ind. Vet. Vol.

³Maj. Gen. Walter Q. Gresham, wounded at Battle of Atlanta, (later Secy of State under President Cleveland).

⁴A freed Negro boy, personal servant of Lt. Col. Griffin.

MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN INDIANA DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Arville L. Funk

Head, Social Studies Department

Perry Township Junior High School (Marion County)

There were approximately one hundred military camps, hospitals and other agencies here in Indiana, during the Civil War. Over seventy of these were regular troop camps. Some of these camps were temporary and of very short duration, some lasting only a day or two. One group of the camps were regiment organizational camps, where a regiment would camp while filling its ranks to full strength, and in the meantime, introducing the recruits to the rudiments of drill, marksmanship and general military life. These organizational camps were usually open from 30 to 60 days and were closed when the regiments left the state to join the armies in the field. A few of the camps, such as Camp Morton, Camp Carrington and Camp Tippecanoe, were open throughout most of the war, often being used for several different purposes as the need changes because of the conduct of the war. Each of the eleven congressional districts was authorized camps for rendezvous, and usually the district camps remained open for one year or more, some were open for all four years of the war.

In most cases, the camps were either named after the commanding officers, or some prominent person from the area where the regiment was recruited. Several of the camps were named after prominent Indiana men of politics.

Marion County and Indianapolis, by far, had the majority of the military agencies here in the state. There were over thirty agencies at different times in Marion County, twenty-four of which were actual troop camps. In some cases a camp was not an actual tenting area, but a single empty available building in the city of Indianapolis.

One of the most interesting camp areas in the state was the area in Port Fulton (now a part of east Jeffersonville), in Clark County, where several camps and a hospital was established. These agencies were located on the farm of Jesse D. Bright, a former United States Senator from Indiana. Bright was a Democrat from Madison, who was expelled from the Senate on February 5, 1862 for writing a letter recognizing Jefferson Davis as the President of the Confederacy. Bright fled south, and the state seized his farm and the government used it for camps (temporarily) and for the large Jefferson General Hospital. The Jefferson Hospital was the third largest military hospital in the United States during the war. It was opened in February, 1864 and remained opened until December, 1866. It had a capacity of 5200 beds and treated over 16,000 wounded during the war.

MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

Many of the camps were located at the county fairgrounds, such as Camp Noble at New Albany; the camp area was rented for \$50.00 a month for the sixty-two acre tract.

One interesting camp was Camp Heffren, the 50th Regiment camp at Seymour. It was named after Horace Heffren of Salem who was then a Lt. Colonel in the regiment. Heffren resigned his commission, then became active in the Sons of Liberty (Knights of the Golden Circle) and finally was arrested and tried by the government.

Camp Sullivan at what now is Military Park in Indianapolis, was on the site of a Mexican War camp, and was opened first as a camp of rendezvous for the first regiments, then in 1862 became the training camp for men drafted into service. It remained a draft camp for two years.

Camp Carrington at Indianapolis was said to be the largest of all the camps in Indiana; it replaced Camp Morton as the training camp of the central Indiana regiments, and practically all the regiments organized in the last year of the war were organized there.

The only military agency that was actually involved in military action during the war was not a camp but a hospital. This was the Newburgh Hospital just east of Evansville on the Ohio River. It was captured in the one day raid of Col. Adam Johnson and his Kentucky guerrilla force in July, 1862. Most of the hospitals were located on the Ohio River where the steamboats could bring the wounded from the battlefields of Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky.

Probably the best known of all the Indiana installations was Camp Morton at Indianapolis. It was on a thirty-six acre tract, formerly known as Henderson's Grove, which had been purchased by the state for the new state fairgrounds. In April, 1861 the fairgrounds were taken over to train and receive the first Hoosiers that volunteered for service, and then in February, 1862, it was turned into a prison camp. Before it closed in June, 1865, Camp Morton was to hold over 15,000 Confederate prisoners.

One of the most unusual agencies in Indiana, was the Soldiers Home at Indianapolis. It was operated by the State Sanitary Commission with funds for rations from the Federal government. The home was first opened as a small tent camp just south of Union Station, to provide comfort for troops in transit. On August 1, 1862, it was moved to a permanent building at the southwest corner of Georgia and West Streets. By 1864, the single building had grown into five large buildings that were able to accommodate 1800 soldiers over night and could feed 8000 persons per day. Associated with the Soldiers Home and the Ladies Home, located in an older brick building near the Union Depot that was opened in 1863 to accommodate the families of soldiers who were stationed in Indianapolis or families traveling through the city.